

# THE ACADEMY.

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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## LITERATURE.

*The Voyage of the "Vega" round Asia and Europe.* With an Historical Review of Previous Journeys along the North Coast of the Old World. By A. E. Nordenskiöld. In 2 vols. (Macmillan.)

THIS record of the discovery of the North-east Passage is, like the conception of the voyage, remarkable for its thoroughness. It is a complete monograph. Baron Nordenskiöld did what had been attempted in vain for three centuries. Achievements such as the voyage of the *Vega* form landmarks in the history of discovery, and points of departure for future work. They close long and glorious records of centuries of effort; and, at the same time, they are starting-points, inciting to further attempts, and to the acquisition of still more valuable results.

Baron Nordenskiöld's great merit lies in the fact that his was no mere piece of good fortune. The whole plan was long and carefully thought out. The necessary experience and knowledge were obtained by more than one tentative reconnaissance. The history of previous voyages and land journeys was carefully studied, and much research was bestowed upon the collection of information from all known sources. The special results, in various branches of science, to be derived from an expedition by the contemplated route, were very exhaustively considered, and nothing was omitted that forethought could suggest to ensure success. We now have the results of this memorable voyage; and they are commensurate with the care that was bestowed upon every department of investigation, and with the success that was achieved.

As a narrative, the work of Nordenskiöld is most interesting, while the information that is brought together for every class of enquirer is as varied as it is complete. The history of former enterprises over the whole route from the coast of Lapland to Behring Strait is no mere superficial sketch, but the outcome of honest and discriminating research. It must have entailed an amount of labour of which the casual reader will have little idea. For the ethnologist the account of the Samoyeds and the exhaustive monograph on the Chukches form a distinct addition to his science. The information respecting the routes and the undeveloped resources of Siberia furnishes material for reflection to the statesman and the merchant, and is pregnant with important consequences in the near future. The chapters on natural history, and the biological notices scattered throughout the work, while exceedingly interesting to the general reader, are specially valuable from the

well-known attainments of the writer and the high qualifications of his scientific staff. The various notes on the physical geography of a region the greater part of which was previously unknown or at least undescribed, and the speculations on cosmic dust, on the aurora and other physical phenomena, are all treated by a master-hand. Rarely has a great discovery been described with such literary skill combined with such fullness of knowledge and depth of research. The numerous engravings and maps with which the two volumes are illustrated serve to enhance the reader's pleasure, while in several instances they are useful, and occasionally even essential aids to a full comprehension of the text.

Baron Nordenskiöld commences his review of North-eastern voyages with the account which Othere the Northman gave to his lord, King Alfred; and illustrates it with a *fac-simile* of the oldest map of the North from an edition of Ptolemy which saw the light at Ulm in 1482. He also gives the map in the Basle (1567) edition of Olaus Magnus, and the famous map showing the third voyage of Barents, from Pontanus. The account of Sir Hugh Willoughby's disaster is illustrated by a full-length portrait taken from the picture in the painted hall at Greenwich; and Nordenskiöld discusses but too briefly the question whether Willoughby sighted Novaya Zemlya and the position of "Willoughby Land." He says that it does not appear to him to be possible for Willoughby to have reached Novaya Zemlya, though want of space prevents him from stating his reasons for this conclusion. On the other hand, he thinks it highly probable that "Willoughby's Land" was Kolguev Island, off the coast of Russian Lapland. Certainly the narrative in Hakluyt seems, on the face of it, to point to Goose-land in Novaya Zemlya as the land in 72° N. discovered by Willoughby. The distance given from Senjen is underrated, it is true, but so it is if Kolguev Island is assumed to be the coast in question; while the course and latitude indicate Goose-land rather than Kolguev. The point is interesting because, if Goose-land was the coast sighted, Willoughby must take rank as (excepting unknown Russians) the first discoverer of Novaya Zemlya. Nordenskiöld gives a full account of the voyage of Stephen Burrough; and speaks in high commendation of the seamanlike hardihood of Arthur Pet. This navigator was the first, in 1580, who ever penetrated from Western Europe into the Kara Sea, and thus brought the solution of the problem of the North-east passage to the Pacific a good way forward. He was also the first who ventured in earnest among the drift ice, and he showed good judgment and readiness of resource. This is the verdict of the man who, nearly three centuries afterwards, completed what our own countrymen, Pet and Jackman, so gallantly commenced. In concluding his account of the voyages of Willem Barents, we are told by Nordenskiöld of a circumstance which is not mentioned in the narrative of de Veer. The two boats in which the companions of Barents had encountered so many difficulties in their voyage from the Ice Haven to Lapland were left in the merchant's yard at Kola as a memento

of the journey, so that the first memorial of an Arctic expedition was raised at Kola! The historical portions of the work are introduced at appropriate points in the narrative, giving it completeness and additional interest without unduly breaking the thread of the story. Thus we find a chronological account of Russian exploration along the coasts of Novaya Zemlya, and of the recent Norwegian voyages; a more detailed history of discoveries along the Siberian shores and the New Siberian Islands; and, lastly, the melancholy but most interesting narrative of Behring's voyages and of his death.

Baron Nordenskiöld justly holds that the expedition under his command was not merely a voyage of discovery and scientific research, but that it was the pioneer of a most important commercial route. The little steamer *Lena*, the consort of the *Vega* as far as the mouth of that river, reached Yakutsk in safety, and was the first vessel, coming from the ocean, that ever arrived in the heart of Siberia. The two other vessels, the *Fraser* and *Express*, which also accompanied the *Vega*, arrived at the Yenisei with cargoes, and thus fully answered the purposes intended—of showing a sea-route which is probably destined to open up a new source of fortune and prosperity. Siberia may be compared, as regards extent, climate, fertility, and capability of supporting a dense population, with America north of 40° N. South of the forest belt, both in Siberia and America, there are vast stretches of an exceedingly fertile soil. The area of the three great river-basins of Siberia, the Ob, Yenisei, and Lena, is 155,310 square miles, of which 90,000 lie south of 60° N. Over a third of this more southern area there is a rich soil, which recompenses with abundant harvests even the slightest labour of cultivation. The three rivers, which drain this region and form its natural outlet, are navigable for the greater part of their courses. The Yenisei traverses a territory which corresponds in length to the distance between Venice and the North Cape. A communication by sea between this country and the rest of the world is possible only by the Arctic Ocean.

Nordenskiöld dwells upon the great importance of following up the work of which his voyage in the *Vega* was the pioneer, and of establishing this sea communication. He adds:—

"If this can be brought about, Siberia, with an inconsiderable expenditure in making canals, will not only become one of the most fortunate countries of the globe in respect of the possibility of the cheap transit of goods, but the old proposal of a North-east commercial route to China may become a reality. If, on the other hand, navigation on the Polar Sea be not brought about, Siberia will long remain what it is at present—a land rich in raw materials, but poor in all that is required for the convenience and comfort with which the civilised man in our days can with difficulty dispense."

As illustrating and throwing further light upon this fascinating project, the author gives some extracts from notes made during his journey up the Yenisei in 1875, describing the frozen *tundra*, the forest belt, and the navigation of the river. The opening of sea-routes to the Siberian rivers is the most

important practical result of the *Vega* expedition.

But the scientific investigations and discoveries will be even more welcome to all those who look upon knowledge as at least of equal value and of more interest than commercial profits. In these pages there is a complete record of all the different finds of mammoth and rhinoceros mummies and skeletons; and descriptions of the ruined houses and graves of the Onkilon—an extinct race the disappearance of which is referred to by Baron Wrangel. Above all, as regards ethnology there is a most exhaustive account of the Chukches, a Northern race—which, however, differs entirely in language from the Eskimo. We now have satisfactory accounts of all the chief tribes of the Arctic shores—of the Eskimo of Greenland, by Dr. Rink; of the Hudson's Bay Eskimo, by Sir Edward Parry; of the Point Barrow Eskimo, by Dr. Simpson; and of the Chukches, by Nordenskiöld. It is impossible to regret the detention of the *Vega* for one winter among the Chukches when one of the results of this enforced sojourn is a most important contribution to ethnology. It is very gratifying to find that the volume on Arctic geography and ethnology which was printed for and presented to the English expedition of 1875-76 by the Royal Geographical Society was also useful on board the *Vega*. The volume, among other information, contains Dr. Simpson's elaborate memoir on the Western Eskimo.

The natural history of this Arctic voyage is of more than ordinary interest, because in passing to the eastward two different avifaunas were met with. In one chapter a description is given of the birds and mammals of Novaya Zemlya. In another we are introduced to very different birds at the *Vega's* winter quarters. At the North-eastern promontory of Asia birds occur in much fewer numbers, but with a very much greater variety of types, than in Novaya Zemlya, Spitzbergen, and Greenland. Here an American eider takes the place of the ordinary eider duck; the long-tailed duck is replaced by the *Fuligula stelleri* with velvet-black, white, and green head; and there are distinct varieties of the other Arctic birds. Here, too, the singular spoon-billed sandpiper was met with, and one specimen of Ross's roseate gull was shot. Still greater interest attaches to Nordenskiöld's researches at Behring Island, where he obtained bones and skulls of the *Rhytina stelleri*, the extinct sea-cow, first described and named by Cuvier; and collected information about the sea bears and sea otters.

To the geographer the observations of the learned Swedish explorer throughout the voyage will have great value; for not only does he describe the physical conditions of several hundreds of miles of new coast-line and of the adjacent seas, but his watchful eye, which nothing seems to have escaped, detected signs and indications throwing light even beyond the visible horizon. Suggestive remarks of this kind are to be met with in almost every page; and the minutest particles, in the hands of the thoughtful searcher into Nature's secrets, give rise to speculations of vast

import. Referring to the substances in the nature of dust which fall to the surface of the earth with rain or snow, a portion of which he had proved to be of cosmic origin, Nordenskiöld says:—

"This inconsiderable fall of dust is of immense importance for the history of the development of our globe, and we regard it besides with the intense interest which we inevitably cherish for all that brings us an actual experience regarding the material world beyond our globe. The inhabited countries of the earth, however, are less suitable for such investigations, as the particles of cosmic dust falling down here in very limited quantity can only with difficulty be distinguished from the dust of civilisation, arising from human dwellings, from furnaces, and the chimneys of steam-engines. The case is quite different on the snow and ice fields of the high North, remote from human habitations and the tracks of steamers. Every foreign grain of dust can here be easily distinguished and removed."

These remarks refer to the discovery, on an ice floe, of pale yellow crystals without mixture of foreign matter, which eventually weathered into tasteless white powder. Nordenskiöld then enumerates some other discoveries of a like nature which have been made by him, or at his instance, and thus concludes:—

"It may appear to many that it is below the dignity of science to concern one's self with so trifling an affair as the fall of a small quantity of dust. But this is by no means the case. For I estimate the quantity of the dust that was found on the ice north of Spitzbergen at from 0.1 to 1 milligram per square metre, and probably the whole fall of dust for the year far exceeded the latter figure. But a milligram on every square metre of the surface of the earth amounts, for the whole globe, to half-a-million tons. Such a mass collected year by year during the geological ages, of a duration probably incomprehensible by us, forms too important a factor to be neglected when the fundamental facts of the geological history of our planet are enumerated. A continuation of these investigations will perhaps show that our globe has increased gradually from a small beginning to the dimensions it now possesses; that a considerable quantity of the constituents of our sedimentary strata, especially of those that have been deposited in the open sea far from land, are of cosmic origin; and will throw an unexpected light on the origin of the fire-hearths of the volcanoes, and afford a simple explanation of the remarkable resemblance which unmistakably exists between plutonic rocks and meteoric stones."

Here, as in many another page of these delightful volumes, there is material for reflection. A new realm of interesting facts is opened to us by their perusal; and, above all, they suggest additional cogent reasons for the continuance of Arctic research. All geographers will heartily join with Baron Nordenskiöld in the hope that his great work "will give encouragement to new campaigns in the service of research, until the veil that still conceals the enormous area of land and sea round the Pole is completely removed—until man at last knows the main features of the whole of the planet which has been assigned him as a dwelling-place in the depths of the universe."

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM.

*The Correspondence of Robert Southey with Caroline Bowles.* Edited, with an Introduction, by Edward Dowden, LL.D. "Dublin University Press Series." (Dublin: Hodges, Figgis & Co.; London: Longmans.)

CAROLINE BOWLES's letters will be welcomed by all amateurs of correspondence. Like Mr. Matthew Arnold's typical Celt, she seems to have been incapable of sustained, laboriously finished work; but we have abundant evidence here that she had all the qualities of a charming letter-writer—frankness, sprightliness, gaiety, good sense, and no small measure of wit. One might have imagined as much from her "Chapters on Churchyards"—chapters by no means so gloomy as the title would suggest. Those essays might have been as delightful as her letters, if her wits had not been somewhat chilled by too oppressive a sense of the public eye. In her correspondence with Southey, she was apparently unreserved, while at the same time she was under stimulus to write her very best. She wrote her very best, and that best was not maimed and marred by any fear of cold appreciation. The letters were so filled with sincere admiration for Southey himself that a cold reception was impossible, and he repeatedly testified his pleasure in the friendly interchange of ideas.

There is a characteristic passage in one of Southey's letters, in which he states that he has preserved every letter received from Miss Bowles, and gives his reasons for so doing. "There is nothing in them," he writes,

"which might not be seen by men and angels, and though written, as their utter carelessness and unreserve may show, without the slightest reference to any other eyes than those to which they were addressed, I shall not be unwilling to think that, when time has consecrated both our memories (which it will do), this correspondence may see the light."

Prof. Dowden, if not Time, has consecrated Southey's memory in a short biography no less just than eloquent; but, if I mistake not, one of the defects which Prof. Dowden admits in his hero is a want of penetration. It is strikingly exemplified here. "Nothing that might not be seen by men and angels." What did he expect from her? The excuse, in reply to an imaginary accuser, can hardly have been pleasant to Miss Bowles; but she had sufficient penetration to see that he meant no offence, and she took none, only putting at the end of her next letter a spirited denunciation of the pious women who ran after "that sanctified coxcomb, Philip Doddridge." If Lord Byron had been alive when the correspondence preserved by Southey—apparently much in the same business-like spirit in which he said that "fine pickings" would be found among his papers—if Lord Byron had been alive when this correspondence was published, the Platonic billing and cooing between the two writers might have furnished him with some opportunities for ferocious mockery. But Miss Bowles made it perfectly clear that she was not to be ranked among the ordinary female worshippers of men of genius. "'Adore Mr. Wordsworth,'" she writes in one letter,

"I certainly do not; and, though I fear mine may be an enthusiastic and rather romantic



nature, I never did or could feel that sort of enthusiasm which seems now and then to make women forget they are women, and have some little feminine dignity and propriety to maintain, and have no business to run about the world 'adoring' poets or any such golden calves."

She is emphatically severe on these adorers, and draws a lively picture of one of them:—

"She intends to be very azure, makes dead sets at poets, would go twenty miles to see his poetical shadow; talks him dead, if she can, and certainly talks all her friends to death for six months afterwards with describing his characteristics, personal, moral, and intellectual; 'his eyes in a fine frenzy rolling,' his sublime abstraction, his half-words, hums and ahs! whether he took water at dinner or eat his fish with a fork (for she slips in at the table by the victim's elbow if she can); and, if afterward she can ensnare him to commit himself in her album, she would not exchange her good fortune, for the time being, with the best lady in the land, though privileged to write herself Mistress instead of Miss."

Miss Bowles makes frequent and copious acknowledgment of Southey's goodness in writing to her and allowing her to write to him, and she makes occasional remarks about his enemies as spiteful as his heart could have desired. But she never forgets that she has "some little feminine dignity to maintain," frankly as she writes about herself and her moods.

A portrait of Miss Bowles forms the frontispiece to the volume; and the editor has done well also to prepare the reader for the enjoyment of her letters by a sympathetic sketch of her life and character. The freshness and interest of the publication lie almost wholly in her letters. This Prof. Dowden seems to understand; and, this being so, we venture to think that the publication would have gained in interest if he had confined himself to editing her letters. "In these quick and crowded days," he says,

"it is perhaps unreasonable to expect that many persons will find interest in the days and hours of a quiet life spent a long time ago among flowers and shrubs."

By no means; such lives are as much sympathised with in these quick and crowded days—if our days are really so very overcrowded by comparison—as ever they were. But in any age, we suspect, there are ninety-nine persons capable of enjoying the fresh record of the gentle incidents of a life spent among books, and birds, and bowers, and literary persons, for one who has the time or the patience to piece the record together out of a mass of correspondence much of which is commonplace.

Of Southey's letters we have already had enough. Prof. Dowden's reason for publishing his letters to Miss Bowles is that they "exhibit his thoughts and feelings in their play and interchange with those of another mind." The reason would be just if the intercourse with another mind had had any influence on his—if the letters placed his thoughts and feelings in any new light. They do not. They show how kindly a man he was when gently approached; how resolutely he toiled at his desk; how gleefully he enjoyed himself in his intervals of leisure with his children and his cats; how heartily,

with all his hard work, he could throw himself into any kind of simple frolic. These pleasing features of his character were known before; and others less pleasing, abundantly exemplified here, also came to light in previously published correspondence. Southey's "passion for righteousness," on which Prof. Dowden insists, was too often identical with a passionate and extremely narrow-minded self-righteousness. A passion for righteousness passes far beyond the golden mean of virtue when it impels a man to believe and say of those whose opinions or whose views of life differ from his own that they are the servants of the Devil. Southey's vigorous, conscientious labour and domestic amiability are an example to all men of letters, and Prof. Dowden is entitled to gratitude for having urged the example with so much force and eloquence. But it is misleading to imply, as is virtually done when Southey's unremitting labour at making many books is held up as an example, that for the plain duty of providing for his household he renounced the possibility of doing better work. A man who can write well will write just as well for money as for any other consideration. It would be harsh to seek to deprive any man of a consoling belief that, if circumstances had so ordered it that he was not under the necessity of writing for a living, he was capable of much higher things. This would be harsh; but generosity, no less than justice, forbids us to encourage him in making this belief a conscious or unconscious self-justification for abusing men more gifted than himself. In this respect Southey is more of a warning than an example.

WILLIAM MINTO.

*Sir Christopher Wren, his Family and his Times, 1585-1723.* By Lucy Phillimore. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

THERE was need of a new memoir of Sir Christopher Wren. His works are all around us as we take our walks for profit or pleasure in those streets of London which are both the most abundant in business and the most varied in interest; and many of us must, in our happier moments of leisure, have felt a curiosity for some knowledge on the life of the great architect whose genius is seen on every side. Natural as such a feeling is, and often as the desire to gratify it must have occurred to the mind of the literary aspirant, there has hitherto been no adequate biography of London's chief architect. Some Lives, indeed, were published more than a generation ago; but they were written in a dull and perfunctory manner, and neither attained to any popularity on their first appearance nor are sought after now. That these memoirs are so inadequate in their design and so imperfect in their execution may perhaps be due to the circumstance that the incidents of Sir Christopher's career must be sought for in a ponderous folio volume without a plan and without arrangement. This volume, which bears the title of *Parentalia; or, Memoirs of the Family of Wren* (for it deals, as does the work of Miss Phillimore, with the history of several members of the house), was compiled by two of Sir Christopher's sons; and Miss

Phillimore has had the good fortune to be entrusted with the copy which has been handed down in his family since 1750, and has in the course of years become enriched with numerous engravings of his London churches and with several letters and MSS. in his handwriting. What good things have been buried away in this confused volume may be gathered from the love letter, happily reprinted here, which Sir Christopher wrote to his future wife.

The brightest and freshest part of Miss Phillimore's book relates to the City churches which were designed by Sir Christopher Wren and erected under his fostering care. She mourns over the loss of many of the specimens of his handiwork, but so venial a fault, if fault it can be called, may well be condoned. Even those who are convinced that many of the churches in the heart of London could never, now that the full tide of life has ebbed into different channels, be turned to an adequate use, and that they must be removed and their sites utilised for the good of the people who have migrated elsewhere, cannot find it in their hearts to condemn an enthusiastic biographer for holding a different opinion. During the last twenty years, under the operations of the Union of Benefices Act, many of the creations of Sir Christopher Wren have been razed to the ground. Eleven of his churches, the spires and towers of which were among the best evidences of his genius, and in the interiors of which Grinling Gibbons had wrought some of his most graceful carvings, have been swept away; and their places are known no more save for the offices which have been erected upon their sites. Sometimes, perhaps, Miss Phillimore, in the ardour of her zeal for the memory of Sir Christopher, makes an undue call upon our powers of admiration. It is not everyone that would class the Temple Bar of old among the picturesque buildings of London, and there are critics who might grudge to the statue of Queen Anne in the forecourt of St. Paul's even the moderate praise of being "not without merit." Thousands of sightseers may have groaned in spirit over the removal of the Temple Bar, but their regret has not been so much for love for the Bar itself as for contempt of the worse thing that has come in its stead. Miss Phillimore has done well, however, in unearthing from the pages of the *Parentalia* and in reprinting in its entirety, for the benefit of her own readers, the admirable letter in which Wren defined his own views on the manner in which City churches should be built. Their position, he declared with great emphasis, should be in the larger and more open streets "among the thicker inhabitants," and they should be adorned with porticoes and spires for the ornament of the town. His opinion on the practice which prevailed in the fashionable world in the days of good Queen Anne of burying in churches would not have done discredit to the sanitary zeal of Lord Palmerston, though our experience of the places of interment around London does not lead us to accept unreservedly the prophecy of Sir Christopher that cemeteries would "bound the excessive growth of the city with a graceful border." One of the opinions which he expresses will come with

a feeling of astonishment on the minds of those acquainted with the interior of his churches; it is his hearty condemnation of pews and pew-openers.

We should recommend everyone who opens the pages of Miss Phillimore's book to skip that part which tells the story of Bishop Wren's life. No inconsiderable portion of the *Parentalia* is occupied with the narrative of his vigorous opposition to the Puritan clergy in the diocese of Norwich, and of the troubles which his misplaced energy brought upon his head; and, as Miss Phillimore's labours are based upon this family history, she has imitated that work even to the particular of combining a narrative of Sir Christopher's experiments in science, and of his protracted and harassing labour at St. Paul's, with memoirs of his father and his uncle. The world has no longing for a more intimate knowledge of Bishop Wren's life, and there is no reason why it should. He has long ago been put down as an inferior copy of Laud, and at the best that is all can be said for him. It is in this section of her work that Miss Phillimore sometimes falls into errors such as we are not accustomed to associate with anyone bearing her family name. We do not allude now to the partisan expression on p. 14 as to the merits of two of the greatest Churchmen of this reign, although many of her readers would gladly have been spared the intrusion of an opinion which grates harshly on their convictions, and might have been omitted without injury to the narrative. Our reference is rather to the passage in which she reverses the preferments of Dr. John Cosin, and speaks of him as "Dean of Durham and Bishop of Peterborough;" to the sentence in which Wren is made Bishop of Norwich on the translation of Corbet to Oxford, when the fact is that Corbet was translated to Norwich from Oxford, and passed from the diocese of East Anglia to another world. It is news to us that Prynne was born at Ipswich; hitherto his birth has been assigned to a village within a few miles of Bath, and Somersetshire men will not part with him, whatever his failings may have been, except on the clearest evidence that the accepted belief is wrong. These and a few other errors can be easily removed from a work which has many recommendations to popular favour; but their presence casts a doubt on the correctness of the whole story, and does an injustice to a volume which is written with pleasantness, and published at an opportune moment.

W. P. COURTNEY.

*Miscellaneous Essays.* By W. R. Greg. (Trübner.)

SINCE this volume came into our hands, its author has solved one at least of the great "Enigmas of Life," and we may be sure that the rest no longer vex him. His death causes a void in the world of literature not easily filled; for Mr. Greg possessed not merely a graceful and easy style of writing, but also much originality of thought, combined with unusual logical powers. Nothing pleased him better than to work out some problem to what appeared to be (on paper) its strict logical result, and to astonish the reader alike

with the conclusion and with the amount of ingenuity displayed in arriving at it. A good example of this habit may be found in the following passage, which we quote from the volume before us without commenting upon the fallacies it contains:—

"In rigorous logic, and by calculation carried far enough, a time must come when the dead in our country will outnumber and dispossess the living. We have a natural prejudice—likely to grow stronger and more imperious rather than to die away—against disturbing the bones of those who have once been committed to the earth; and one not quite so general, but still a growing one, against depositing many in one grave, or at least in the same spot. It is usually felt that each person is entitled to have his 'six feet of earth' to lie in, and that it shall be his *for ever*; and grave-yards are 'consecrated' and set apart for this purpose. Now, it is found that, allowing for walks and necessary side spaces, 1,200 graves can be made out of one acre; the deaths in England and Wales (being now above 500,000 annually, and increasing year by year) will, therefore, need the allotment in perpetuity of about 500 acres per annum, or 50,000 in each century. . . . Thus, as the area of England and Wales extends to about 37,000,000 acres, in a period easily calculated the dead (if we still eschew cremation) will have eaten or elbowed out the living."

The serious way in which this problem (which, as yet, has not come within the reach of practical politics) is discussed by Mr. Greg is eminently characteristic of the writer. He has little sense of humour. Had that been added to his many great gifts, he would have taken a more cheerful view of life and also a more true one. He would have seen its lights as well as its shadows, and would have been less ready to assume at a moment's notice the rôle of Cassandra.

Still, it cannot be denied that there are plenty of "rocks a-head" in the troubled sea of modern life; and not the least dangerous among them are the relation—one might often say the opposition—between the employer and employed and the growing power of the masses, against which Mr. Greg lifts up a warning voice. Then there is that most difficult problem—pauperism—which each successive generation shrinks from handling; and the great question of national hygiene, which as yet has met with very inadequate treatment. These and many other matters of general interest are discussed by Mr. Greg in language singularly lucid and apt, and, if he sometimes writes as an alarmist, he never gives vent to screams or bluster. Each essay is, in fact, a model of pure and nervous English; and the single word "inescapably" (*i.e.*, inevitably), which has crept in we know not how, is the exception which proves the rule. In the volume before us we would call special attention to a capital paper entitled "Verify your Compass," which deals with those freaks of morbid conscientiousness from which most of us have at some time suffered. There is an invincible ignorance about the conscientious egotist which is extremely difficult to combat. Argument is thrown away upon him, and punishment exalts him into a martyr. Fine and imprisonment have no terrors for the "Peculiar People," and seem only to exasperate the "anti-vaccinationist." After

carefully reviewing the whole matter, Mr. Greg comes to the sensible conclusion

"that conscientiousness in its absolute form—that is, being a slave to your conscience, always doing what it tells you to do—is commendable or defensible only on the preliminary assumption that you have taken every available pains to enlighten and correct it. You can be safe and justified in obeying it implicitly only when you have ascertained, or done all in your power to ascertain, first, that it is qualified to command, and secondly, that what you take for conscience is not in reality egotism, ignorance, incapacity, intolerance, or conceit under a thin disguise."

One can but regret that the troublesome folk who mistake a crotchet for a duty are the least likely to read and apply to themselves this good advice.

At the end of the volume are reprinted three papers upon religious subjects which it is unnecessary to notice at length. Mr. Greg may be said in such matters to have "paused on the middle ground between Scepticism and Conviction," but his reverent method of treating the belief of others is so exceptional in theological controversy that it demands a passing recognition. In times like the present we can ill spare so thoughtful and tolerant a writer as Mr. Greg, the courage of whose own convictions was as conspicuous as his tenderness for the convictions of others.

CHARLES J. ROBINSON.

NEW NOVELS.

*Time and Chance.* By Mrs. Tom Kelly. In 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

*Dandy.* By Jean Middlemass. In 3 vols. (Tinsley.)

*The Prince and the Pauper.* By Mark Twain. (Chatto & Windus.)

*Les Théories du Docteur Wurtz.* Par J. Girardin. (Hachette.)

*Muriel Ray.* By Emily C. Taylor. (Rivingtons.)

*Sweetbriar.* By A. Giberne. (Seeley.)

WE have read in a certain comedy, perhaps justly obsolete, that once upon a time a brisk trade was driven in quotations by the Grub Street hacks, till a poor Oxford scholar, in the desperate fever of competition, flooded the market by supplying perfectly fresh quotations from the *Delectus* at a shilling the dozen. The time has now come when—we use the formula consecrated in the jargon of the platform to projects fit neither for time nor eternity—when a lost industry may well be revived. The demand is keen, the consumption unlimited. If only Mrs. Kelly and a few of her colleagues will favour us with their custom we might ensure a genteel competence. We do not advertise; but at least we could promise a better article than the following mottoes:—

"CHAPTER XV.—COMING OF AGE.

"'Twas when the wan leaf frae the birk tree was fa'in.'—*Old Song*.

"'Now tread we a measure!' said young Loch-invar."—*Scott*.

Or this, referring to the hero's visit to the diamond diggings,—

"CHAPTER XII.—DOWN ON THEIR LUCK.

"Cursed is the ground for thy sake."—*Genesis*.  
"Diamonds again," &c., &c., &c. (a long quotation).—*The Golden Butterfly*.



But these excerpts, even those from *The Golden Butterfly*, are at all events better reading than the book itself, which is desperately high-flown and stupid. A very Scotch laird christens his children Roderigue and Marie for no other reason than to please the *bizarre* taste of Mrs. Kelly. The Laird is ensnared by a lovely Marchesa, whose lovelier daughter, Ingha, sings as Italian sirens only do in books. Everybody is amazingly beautiful and clever, and good, and unfortunate. Their talk is copious and silly; their actions few and feeble, certainly not worth following here. Some of the execrating ravings about Highland scenery richly deserve quotation; but we forbear, in the hope that the vice of gloomy foreboding to which Mrs. Kelly is so prone will warn her to pause even after she has passed this Rubicon of *Time and Chance*, and to beware how she repeats herself.

*Dandy* is a decided success. The construction is business-like, if rather old-fashioned, and the details are worked out in the thorough old matter-of-fact method. There is no parade of genius or rapturous style; and the result is that, when we close the book, we find that it has interested us far more than we were conscious of while reading it. The tale is pretty and pathetic enough. A rich young widow has a little son, Andrew, or Dandy, and two lovers. The bad one kidnaps Dandy to further his designs upon the mother's hand, and then shifts suspicion upon the good lover. This villain is rather a clumsy creation. His motive was much too vague and slight to have justified such a risky undertaking. The detectives also fail to show more penetration here than they do in real life, which is, at any rate, a refreshing contrast to Gaborian's transparent mysteries. But it is in the scenes of low life that the author shows real power and sympathy. The language may not always be quite true to the letter—it is written by a lady; but otherwise the little tailor, his daughter, and her drunken lover, and even the intriguing dressmaker, are figures which show not only careful observation, but a most unusual insight into, and appreciation of, the standard of ideas and morals among the poor. If the author does not equal Dickens in the former respect, in the latter she has distinctly surpassed him. The tailor's shop-window, all too small for majestic display of the wax lady-equestrian and stuffed horse—which Job had picked up at a sale—is almost worthy to stand next door to the "Old Curiosity Shop;" but Mercy, so loving, so brisk, so dutiful, yet, in her sensible way, neither ignoring nor chafing against the coarse and bad elements in her life, is a far truer type than even Lizzie Hexham. Nor is the handsome, lazy young carpenter, with his latent brutality brought out by the fatal gift of a small legacy, though a more difficult study, much less successful. So far as these sketches go, the book is good, and may do good.

Those who have discovered wit, wisdom, and good taste in Mark Twain's previous works will laugh beforehand at even an historical romance from his pen. But whether we were expected to laugh or cry we could not quite make out—on the whole, the

volume seemed to be written *au grand sérieux*—but, at all events, we did neither. Against the happy thought which forms the backbone of the tale, we must really protest. A street Arab, one Tom, is supposed to have changed clothes with Edward VI. during Henry's last illness, to have played the part of a royal Christopher Sly, and reigned with much distinction till the real Edward, after dreadfully low adventures, steps forward at the coronation and claims his own. And this is intended for "young people of all ages." Mr. Clemens will permit us to point out that, if the young Britisher has once passed the age when such historical heresies must either be prohibited or extirpated by the rod, he will infallibly fall to criticising, and probably even to making fun at, instead of with, Mark Twain. Victor Hugo's veiled Wapentake, or Court of Arches, that synod of the English Church, is not more astounding than this picture of Reformation times—a misty atmosphere of Scott's chivalry in which floats all the flunkeyism, aristocratic oppression, and so forth, of all or any later period, as revealed to Columbia's stern eye. It is not worth while to multiply instances; let the absurd description of the young King's *levée* in chap. xviii. suffice, where the author exaggerates something he must have read somewhere about the ceremonies of the bed-chamber introduced by Louis XIV. There is no excuse for this libel on the English Court. The list of thirteen officials, ending with the Primate, through whose hands the royal hose pass is concocted with peculiar clumsiness. Not even Cranmer would have stooped to hand the King's breeches, no matter how heavy the pockets felt. Foxe's classical work has apparently been consulted; burnings and boilings are done full justice to; and the general Protestant tone would be highly satisfactory were it not that the author is always fdgeting about certain "Blue Laws of Connecticut." From the Appendix (which, in its quotations from Hume, Mr. Timbs, and the erudite Dr. Trumbull, author of a Defence of the said Blue Laws, is quite a curiosity) we gather that this ponderous fantasia on English history is intended to show up British barbarism, and so, by contrast, to whitewash this embarrassing Blue business, which, in a solemn last general note in italics and capitals, he calls "*the first SWEEPING DEPARTURE FROM JUDICIAL ATROCITY which the 'civilised' world had seen*," and "*this humane and kindly Blue-Law Code*." And why? Because our laws had 123 capital crimes, and the Blue Laws only fourteen. What those fourteen were he does not say. We think we can guess. The book is full of pictures in the spirited, florid old style. These will amuse the children. Naturally, the plot has suggested several comical situations, some of which are amusingly dwelt on; while a few smart sayings relieve the monotony of a prolix work singularly deficient in literary merit.

The three stories by the author of *Les Braves Gens* are of unequal merit. "*Le Fiancé de Lénora*" is very poor, and smacks somewhat of *Werther*. "*Docteur Wurtz*" is certainly original and remarkable. It tells how a cross-grained, hateful professor

accidentally formed a theory of the Plasticity of the Soul, and, experimenting upon himself to prove his theory, became a reformed and amiable character. There is something in the growth of motive from pure love of research to a mingling of moral aims which is singularly quaint and German. This story is quite worth reading.

*Muriel Ray* and *Sweetbriar* are proper books for proper young persons. Both may be strongly recommended to parents at this trying holiday time as powerful sedatives for boisterous school-girls. *Sweetbriar* is the larger, *Muriel Ray* the more stupefying, dose. The latter is a female version of the popular history of religious opinions, in which a young lady pursues the beaten track from Low to Broad Church. It is sincere and fairly sound as a mild polemic, but can hardly be called a story at all. *Sweetbriar* is less exclusively theological, and reminds us of the many extra links that are always being added to the *Daisy Chain*. Ladies somehow fancy that the intensely domestic novel is an easy task. In reality, it is hopelessly difficult. Miss Giberne's happy family is a pandemonium—the father an ogre of cruelty, the mother a mere phantom, the misunderstood eldest son an impossible prig. Eglantine herself is natural and acceptable enough. The second son partakes of his father's ferocity. Mystery, reticence, secrecy, self-torture, and stupidity are congenital in them all, and naturally entail a luxuriant crop of misery. Consumption and hemorrhage enhance the religious tone. Since the remotest and utterly irrelevant relationships and connexions of this puzzling family are detailed so fully and so often, one is surprised to see a gross blunder of names in the epitaph on the tombstones. The gossip and scandal of the old maids, which is very well modelled on Jane Austen, is the best thing in the book. E. PURCELL.

#### THE LAST OF THE GIFT BOOKS.

*Milly and Olly; or, a Holiday among the Mountains*. By Mrs. T. H. Ward. Illustrated by Mrs. Alma-Tadema. (Macmillan.) It is not very presumptuous to predict that the present season will scarcely see a more charming addition to children's literature than this of Mrs. Ward's. It is a simple narrative of the visit of two children, with their parents, to the Lake district—what befel them there, the friends they made, and the various little incidents of their stay. The graceful humour of the children's sayings, and their quaintness of thought and expression, form a refreshing contrast to what we have too often had to endure since the appearance of *Helen's Babies*. The didactic element is delightfully absent from the book, though the stories of the death of Arthur, of the Spanish Queen, and of Beowulf may suggest the useful lesson to sensible children that the masterpieces of literature are not "dry." It is quite clear that we have altogether got rid of the idea that anything will do for a children's book when so refined and graceful—may we add, so learned?—a writer as Mrs. Ward caters for the little ones. Her book has seemed to us, and to two ladies whom we have called in as assessors, all that a Christmas gift for a child should be.

*Round the Yule Log: Norwegian Folk and Fairy Tales*. By P. Chr. Asbjørnsen. Translated by H. L. Brækstad, with an Introduction by Edmund W. Gosse. (Sampson Low.) If our

memory serves us right (for we have not kept the book in our own possession), a few fairy tales of Asbjørnsen were introduced to us last Christmas by the same translator. But here we have Asbjørnsen himself, in a full-sized volume, with all the various achievements of his story-telling art, in which fairies proper take but a small place. And we think that we may also congratulate the translator upon having improved by practice. Indeed, of all the many books destined for children that have recently passed through our hands, we make bold to say that this is the one which should be most entirely satisfactory to grown-up people. Its general get-up is most creditable to the publishers. They have obtained from Mr. Gosse a Preface, which is itself a contribution to our knowledge of modern Norwegian literature, and which fulfils its object by striking for us the key-note that runs through the volume—"wild plots, full of strange Alpine blossoms, perfumed with the wind from the pine-forest." Again, by an unusual combination of enterprise with good taste, the illustrations are all taken from Norwegian artists, marked by the same natural freshness, if also sometimes by the same natural coarseness, as their subject. And the tales are worthy of this setting. Some are only variants of the folklore common to the Aryan family; others are more markedly Scandinavian. But those which have pleased us most of all are the simple narratives of the author's own experiences among fishermen, hunters, farmers, and wood-cutters of to-day. In brief, this is an addition to English literature which children will love, and which their parents will appreciate none the less.

*Old Deccan Days; or, Hindu Fairy Legends current in Southern India.* Collected from Oral Tradition by Mary Frere. With an Introduction and Notes by Sir Bartle Frere. Illustrations by Catherine Frances Frere. Third Edition, Revised. (John Murray.) *Old Deccan Days* has already become a classic, whether to the students of folk-lore, or to the mere devourers of fairy tales, in which latter class we must be content to rank ourselves. This book and the preceding we have read through at a stretch; and we have been much struck by not a few suggestions of close similarity, upon which we should like to dwell if we had space. It must suffice to say here that this is another of those books which please the critic by the worthy manner in which all the surroundings have been made to set off the substance. A child will understand the stories and the pictures; but a man who reads through the preliminary chapters will have been raised to the position from which he will obtain a deeper understanding. The only thing we cannot quite approve is the title, which sounds too historical.

*Lucile.* By Owen Meredith (the Earl of Lytton). Illustrated. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.) This very edition has been one of the most successful "gift-books" of the season in America, where it was published by Messrs. Osgood, of Boston. Such a double issuing of books on either side of the Atlantic, without any notification on the title-page, will be a snare to the bibliographers of the future. But in the present case we are the gainers, and have no right to complain. Of the poem itself it is not now necessary to say anything. A curious point in this edition of it is that the name of the place in which so much of the scene lies is for the first time correctly printed—"Luchon." As to the illustrations, while admitting that they are excellent examples both of American draughtsmanship and of American engraving, it must also be said that they belong to a style of art that has had its day in this country. As must always be the case when a number of artists combine, the result is to decorate rather

than illumine the meaning of their author. We admire the head- and tail-pieces, and the pictures that are only intended to represent chance similes in the poem, no less (if not more) than the larger illustrations and plates, which ought to embody the leading thoughts of the poet. The handsomeness of the book must be granted; but we doubt whether it will win for *Lucile* many more readers.

*Pictures from the Orkney Islands.* By John T. Reid. (Edinburgh: David Douglas.) In this book, the "pictures" are everything; the letterpress is nothing more than the merest notes. But the pictures are very good of their kind. They represent the results of a sketching tour, not worked up with any great elaboration, nor reproduced by any expensive process—but just given in a plain, natural fashion, as they were jotted down with the pencil. Few parts of Scotland are more interesting and less hackneyed; none is less English, or even less Scotch, than the Orkneys. All who happen to have explored so far North will be glad to possess themselves of these faithful memorials of what they saw, or might have seen. We think Mr. Reid most happy in his delineation of cliff-scenery, which is indeed the characteristic scenery of the islands. But he has also succeeded in some (though not all) of those flat landscapes, equally dismal whether the land be cultivated or barren, whether it be high or low, which so strike a stranger from the South. The Orkneys have no green valleys, no purling brooks, no retired waterfalls, no bushy hedgerows; and their trees might almost be counted. The land is as wild as the sea.

*The Story of a Nursery Rhyme.* By C. B. Illustrated by Margaret Hooper. (Field and Tuer; Hamilton, Adams and Co.) This excellent specimen of the printer's art (one of the class of books which are no books) will be an excellent present for a child who has not yet learnt to read, but whom, for some inscrutable reason, it is thought desirable to train up from his cradle in the way that he should print. Its possession will undoubtedly instil into him an ardent passion for hand-made paper, uncommon binding, sumptuous old-faced type, and all the qualities that can make a book desirable from the mechanical and commercial point of view; but we do not recommend that he should be allowed to retain it after he has learnt his letters. In fact, its form is nearly perfect, but its matter is naught; and we do not think that a well-regulated child would find it much more amusing than we have found it ourselves. Vulgarity is but the more vulgar when it comes in so fair a shape. The illustrations are graceful and pleasing.

*Grandma's Attic Treasures.* By Mary D. Brine. (Griffith and Farran.) A book from New York, to which we should accord a hearty welcome. The story of the old lady who sold her old furniture to buy herself a new bonnet and her husband a cow, and could scarcely bear to part with them, not from their aesthetic attraction, but from old association, is told in very easy and pleasant verse. She seems to have been quite unnecessarily afflicted for the purposes of the story (it is, indeed, hard to reckon the number of children she lost); but she is consoled at the end by the return of a grandchild, who has a fine house in New York, and buys one of her grandmother's old tables at a curiosity shop for more money than the dealers gave for all the treasures they carted away from the old lady's cottage. We are glad to say that the grandmother did not die from the shock of meeting the old table. She only weeps over it, calls the dealers cheats, and returns to her old man in the country. The illustrations show the usual skill of modern American wood-cutting, and are very pretty, as is everything about the book except the binding.

*Brushwood.* By T. Buchanan Read. (Chatto

and Windus.) Another book of much the same style, but throughout of better quality, binding included. The story is a simple and pathetic modern Christian myth, told in sweet, simple verse with much skill and taste; and the illustrations by Frederick Dielman are worthy of it. We have seldom seen a more beautiful little book of its kind.

*Children's Poetry.* By the Author of "John Halifax, Gentleman." (Macmillan.) Children will like Mrs. Craik's poetry, and it will not only please them, but do them good. Of the many stories she tells in simple verse there is not one which is not interesting in itself or does not teach some wholesome lesson. Her muse is didactic, but not dull; her pathos is not puerile, nor her morality effeminate. A good many of these little pieces, viewed as works of art, are full of faults, but there are one or two which even the most fastidious critic would pass without blame. Indeed, we have seldom read a book of verse which, as verse, is so uneven in merit. It seems to be a mere chance whether Mrs. Craik sings in or out of tune, and she scarcely seems conscious of the difference. "The Story of the Birkenhead" is one which one would have thought was peculiarly suited to her, for none can appreciate such true heroism better. Yet she makes but little of it. Only once she seems to feel the scene, and gives us some fine lines—viz.,

"Without a murmur or a groan  
They stood, formed rank and file,  
Between the dreadful crystal seas  
And the sky's dreadful smile."

But almost immediately after she lapses into such a verse as this—

"Now each man for himself. To the boats!'  
Arose a passing cry.  
The soldier-captain answered, 'Swamp  
The women and babes? No, die!'"

Again, in "My Little Boy that Died," what can be more tender and true than this?—

"But yet I often think my boy is living,  
As living as my other children are.  
When good-night kisses I all round am giving  
I keep one for him though he is so far.  
Can a mere grave divide  
Me from him—though he died?"

"So while I come and plant it o'er with daisies  
(Nothing but childish daisies all year round),  
Continually God's hand the curtain raises  
And I can hear the merry voice's sound,  
And feel him at my side  
My little boy that died."

Yet this little poem begins thus:

"Look in his pretty face for just one minute,  
His braided frock and dainty buttoned shoes."

Such contrasts as this may be found in many of the poems, but there is no contrast so great as that between the rest of the book and two poems at the end. One of these, "The Pass of Brander," we do not hesitate to call a masterpiece in its way. There is no mechanical workmanship, no bathos, in this. The sweet, sad story is told as well as it can be told, and every verse is good. Praise also with little qualification can be given to the version of the old story of the fisherman and the sealskin, of which the authoress has made a delightful little operetta in four scenes, full of pretty songs. Here, where she might be expected to break down lamentably, she never even halts. From beginning to end it is musical and full of brightness. Yet between these two beautiful poems is placed the sorriest piece of doggerel in the book. Truly Mrs. Craik's Pegasus is a lazy animal and capricious, but he has wings.

*Men of Mark.* Photographed from Life by Lock and Whitfield. With Brief Biographical Notices by Thomas Cooper. Sixth Series. (Sampson Low.) Enterprises similar to this have been undertaken before now, but none has



been carried out with such a uniformly high standard. Part of this praise is due to the photographers, who have here given us masterpieces of their art as applied to portraiture; but not a little is due to the editor, both for the judiciousness of his selection, and the no less judicious reticence of his biographical notices. We should never have thought that there were so many contemporary distinguished men. Our only complaint is that in the present series art has been allowed unduly to predominate over literature. Out of thirty-six names, there is neither poet, novelist, historian, traveller, nor professor. We have also to thank the publishers for sending us the monthly numbers.

*The Decorative Sisters.* By Josephine Pollard. Illustrated by Walter Satterlee. (New York: Randolph; London: Trübner.) This little book honestly bears its American imprint in two or three places, even to the statement that it is copyright in the United States. But its subject is purely English, and it deserves to be welcomed here. Shortly put, it is a nursery skit upon the present (or shall we say recent) æsthetic craze. To the verses we may pay the compliment that they challenge comparison with those of Mr. Gilbert himself. The pictures are somewhat uneven. But the best are as good as any we have seen this year; and they are skillfully reproduced by some process of chromo-lithography. Altogether, we can commend highly this very innocent and graceful satire.

*Palestine Explored.* By the Rev. James Neil. (Nisbet.) Mr. Neil was for some time Incumbent of Christ Church, Jerusalem, and his acquaintance with the country he describes is consequently far more accurate and extensive than that of the ordinary tourist. The object of the book (which seems to have been well carried out) is to make the reader conversant with the present aspect of Palestine, and the manners, customs, and colloquial expressions of its inhabitants, the author rightly deeming that in this way much light may be thrown upon the Scripture narrative. It is one of the best prize books we have lately seen.

*Six Ballads about King Arthur.* (Kegan Paul, Trench and Co.) Having read through lately a good deal of verse intended for juvenile minds, we can bear the witness of experts that these "ballads" reach a standard far above the common. The worst that can be said of them is that neither is their subject new nor their source. The volume is handsomely bound; but children nowadays demand more illustrations.

*Tantler's Sister, and other Untruthful Stories.* By E. F. Turner. (Smith, Elder and Co.) Some slight sketches "after Dickens" which will amuse the holiday-keepers at this season. Perhaps the best piece in the book is that which contains the author's reminiscences of his life at Merchant Taylors' before the school had changed its habits and its habitation.

*Lapsed but not Lost.* By the Author of "Chronicles of the Schönberg-Gotta Family." (S. P. C. K.) This is a tale of Roman Carthage and of the trials of the early Christians therein. In it there are some things hard to be understood, but this will not prevent our elder girls from taking a lively interest in the fortunes of Eucharis and Candida and Justin.

AFTER the mass of German fairy tales and Easter legends with which we have been deluged, the choosers of gifts for young people will welcome the late Sidney Lanier's attempt to interest his readers in the Welsh Arthurian tales of in *The Boy's Mabinogion* (Sampson Low). It is something for boys, and girls too, to be able to read the story of Geraint and Enid in its oldest form; and, in fact, in all the

tales they will find themselves in a new world, where their attention is sure to be kept alive.

*Her Father's Inheritance.* By Crona Temple. (S. P. C. K.) A story with a good moral purpose; some love and also some mystery in it. The illustrations (in our copy) occur but twice, and near the end of the book. We wonder why?

*A High Calling.* (S. P. C. K.) A good book for circulation among servants or those who are being trained for service.

*Danger Signals.* By F. M. Holmes. (Longley.) A volume of temperance tales, rather sensational in tone, and with illustrations of the same character.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

WE regret to hear that Dr. Warren De La Rue has been compelled by ill-health to resign the post of honorary secretary to the Royal Institution.

MESSRS. LONGMANS will publish next week *Martin Wurz and Lorez Stark*; or, English prints of Two German Originals. The former is a translation of Jean Paul's prose idyll, and is to a great extent autobiographical. The latter is a rendering of Engel's well-known *Charaktergemälde*.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN AND Co. will publish, in the course of January, Book IV. of the *Meditations* of Marcus Aurelius, edited, with a new translation and a Commentary, by Mr. Hastings Crossley, M.A., sometime Scholar of Trinity College, Dublin, and Professor of Greek in Queen's College, Belfast. In his Preface, Prof. Crossley will show the interest of Roman Stoicism for men, and especially Englishmen, of the present day.

MESSRS. HURST AND BLACKETT will publish next month *Griffin Ahoy*, by Gen. E. H. Maxwell, C.B., with illustrations, comprising a yacht cruise in the Levant, and wanderings in Egypt, Syria, the Holy Land, Greece, and Italy, in 1881.

WE hear that Mr. John Todhunter, author of *A Study of Shelley*, who has just published with Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. a little volume of "Forest Songs," has also finished a drama on the subject of Rienzi.

A FACSIMILE has been made, by the process of photo-lithography, of the remarkable MS. of Marco Polo preserved in the Royal Library at Stockholm. The work has been undertaken at the expense of Baron Nordenskiöld. A limited number of copies have been printed before the plates were rubbed off, and subscribers in this country should address themselves to Mr. Bernard Quaritch. The work is issued in one volume (quarto), bound in the Roxburghe style; and its value is enhanced by an elaborate Introduction from the pen of M. Delisle, of the Bibliothèque nationale at Paris.

WE understand that Mr. N. Bodington, Professor of Greek and Latin at the Mason Science College, has determined to give up tutorial work at Lincoln College, Oxford, and to reside permanently at Birmingham. The latter town is to be congratulated on his decision.

ONE instance of Mr. Browning's quickness of work has been made public, his writing in five days his tragedy of *The Blot in the 'Scutcheon*, of which Charles Dickens said, in a letter to Forster, November 25, 1842,

"I know nothing that is so affecting, nothing in any book I have ever read, as Mildred's recurrence to that 'I was so young—I had no mother.'"

"['I was so young—I loved him so—I had no mother—God forgot me—and I fell.']"

I know no love like it, no passion like it, no moulding of a splendid thing after its conception, like it."

But Mr. Furnivall's addition to his *Browning Bibliography* will state the facts that the poet's tragedy of *The Return of the Druses* was also written in five days, an act a day; and that his three poems of *Love among the Ruins*, *Women and Roses*, and *Childe Roland* were written on three successive days in Paris—viz., January 1, 2, and 3, 1852. Another point of some dramatic interest should be noticed in Mr. Browning's nine "Tragedies and other Plays;" that is, that two-thirds of them observe the classic "unity of time," which Shakspeare neglected in all his dramas except the *Comedy of Errors* (taken from Plautus) and *The Tempest*. Mr. Browning's six time-unity plays are *Pippa Passes*, *The Return of the Druses*, *A Blot in the 'Scutcheon*, *Colombe's Birthday*, *Luria*, and *In a Balcony*, in the last of which we hope to see Mrs. Kendal next spring.

MR. W. M. CONWAY has been engaged for several years in the investigation of the history of wood-cut illustrations in early printed Dutch books. The results of this investigation, which throw considerable light on the early history of printing, will be published in the *Bibliographer*; and the first article of the series, on the first Louvain wood-cutter (1473-83), will appear in the January number.

MR. C. WYMAN, of the firm of Messrs. Wyman and Son, has in preparation a Glossary of the Technical Terms used in Connexion with Typographic and Lithographic Machinery. The work will be published in instalments in the *Printing Times and Lithographer*.

*The Question of Cain*, a new novel in three volumes by Mrs. Cashel Hoey, will be issued by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett in January.

A REPRODUCTION, in cheap form, of Cruikshank's series of telling pictures, *The Bottle*, and of the sequel plates, entitled *The Drunkard's Children*, has just been published by the National Temperance Publication Depot.

THE Braille system of embossed letters for the use of the blind is now so largely practised in this country that the British and Foreign Blind Association, founded in 1868, has decided to adopt these types, instead of Moon's system, in all their publications, among which are several of Shakspeare's plays, *Ivanhoe*, selections from Byron, from Milton, &c., besides educational works. Within the past few months the Association has also published an embossed magazine, with the title of *Progress*, the aim of which is to present the blind with information likely to be specially interesting to them, and also to give short general articles.

WE learn from the *Manchester Guardian* that the Rev. T. E. Gibson, encouraged by the success of his *Cavalier's Notebook*, proposes to issue (by subscription) another work drawn from the rich stores of the Crosby records. This is a diary kept by Nicholas Blundell, of Crosby, from 1702 to 1728, containing many interesting notices of Lancashire families, sports, customs, and theatricals.

MESSRS. AIRD AND COGHILL, an old-established printing firm in Glasgow, are about to issue a new weekly religious journal, to be called the *Christian Leader*.

WE hear that the article entitled "At St. Albans," in the January number of the *Sunday at Home*, is from the pen of Mr. W. Edmund Crothers; and that it will be followed by another on the literary associations of the city.

THE examination for the vacant Professorship of Political Economy in the University of Dublin will be held on January 16 and 17, 1882, in Trinity College, Dublin, and conducted by paper exclusively. The examiners appointed by the Provost and Senior Fellows are Mr. Cliffe Leslie and the outgoing professor, Mr. Shaw.

THE inventor of two of the words for which we asked a fortnight ago on behalf of Dr. Murray and the Philological Society's Dictionary—*aphelion* and *perihelion*—has been found by Mr. Wesley, the assistant-secretary to the Astronomical Society. And this inventor is Kepler, who in his *Prodromus* (1596) notices that, though Copernicus showed that the sun (*helios*), and not the earth (*ge*), was the centre of the universe, he went on using the old terms, *apogee* and *perigee*, whereas he ought, of course, to have altered them to *aphelion* and *perihelion*. And these terms in their Latin forms Kepler thenceforth adopts. But the first English user of them is still to seek.

At the request of the Council of the Institute of Bankers in Scotland, Mr. Henry Dunning Macleod will deliver a course of lectures on "Credit and Banking" in Edinburgh and Aberdeen in January next.

AMONG the contents of the January number of the *Century*, will be "The Reminiscences of Garfield," by Col. Rockwell; and "The Reminiscences of Thiers," by Mr. Washburne, late American Minister at Paris, the latter illustrated with an engraving by Mr. Cole after M. Bonnat's well-known portrait, printed in colour. There will also be a little Venetian sketch by Princess Louise.

THE *New York Critic* for December 3 has a portrait of Mr. Emerson, with some very characteristic notes on him by Mr. Walt Whitman. These portraits are a distinct feature of the *Critic*, most of them being far superior to anything attempted in journals, as opposed to magazines, on this side the Atlantic. The *Critic* is a fortnightly periodical, but a newspaper, though it purports to be copyright.

AN American novelty is an *illustrated* edition of Macaulay's History and Essays, published by Messrs. Estes and Lauriat, of Boston.

THE fifth volume of the library catalogue in connexion with the State Historical Society of Wisconsin has just been published at Madison. The addition consists of 585 pages, the four previous volumes numbering 2,491 pages. The whole number of titles, with cross-references, of books and pamphlets exceeds 94,000. In 1876 there were only two societies in America possessing more books than that of Wisconsin—the Worcester Antiquarian Society and the New York Historical Society.

THE teachers of French in England propose to form among themselves a provident association, with which object a general meeting will be held in London, January 12-14. Victor Hugo has already promised to become president of the association.

IN the early part of this month an historic event of some interest took place at Münster, the old capital of Westphalia. The cages in which the bodies of the three Anabaptist leaders, Jan of Leyden, Knipperdolling, and Krechting, were displayed after the storming of the town in 1536 were taken down from the tower of the Lamberti-kirche. This church was built in the fourteenth century, and for some time past the fall of the tower has been anticipated. The cages have been commonly described as made of iron, but our informant tells us that their material is wood. They were found to be in good preservation. By a curious coincidence, one of the workmen employed on the job himself bears the name of Krechting.

IT is proposed to collect in the Laurentian Library at Florence all the Dante MSS. which are at present scattered among the libraries of that city, to the number of about 300. For their reception a special room will be built at one end of the long gallery constructed by Michelangelo, in which are still preserved some of the books that formed the original nucleus

of the library, chained to the shelves. It is said that the original plans of Michelangelo have been discovered, showing that he himself contemplated such an extension of the building; and his design, which is for a room of a triangular shape, will be scrupulously followed.

THE Russian novelist N. S. Liéskof is engaged on a new work of fiction, to be entitled *Sokoli Perelet* ("A Falcon's Flight"). The design of this work is to exhibit the change that has taken place in the ideas and aspirations of the Russian people during the past twenty years. The scene is partly laid in a prison for State criminals, but the novel will not bear a markedly political character. It is now twenty years since M. Liéskof published his first romance of Russian life, *Nekuda* ("Nowhither"), the aim of which was to indicate the absence of any legitimate outlet for the exertion of the newly awakened national forces; and in the present work he proposes to show the directions in which these forces have in consequence since then tended.

THE *Euskal-Erria* of December 10 introduces to its readers a new Spanish poet, Don Jose Roure, in a fine ballad, whose chief fault is its length, on Antonio de Oquendo. The theme is a counterpart of Tennyson's *Ballad of the Revenge*, only, unlike Sir Richard Grenville, Oquendo dies full of remorse on account of the brave men whose lives he has uselessly sacrificed to his passion for glory. The same paper announces for publication next year, in Barcelona, Larramendi's inedited "Historia de Guipuzcoa," carefully annotated by Padre F. Fita. The volume forms part of a series—"La verdadera Ciencia Española."

IT is announced that the Queen of Roumania will shortly publish, under her literary pseudonym of "Carmen Sylva," an epic poem entitled *Ahasuerus*.

MME. MITE KREMNITZ, of Bucharest, who is well known as an elegant translator of Roumanian literature, will shortly publish (Leipzig: W. Friedrich) a German version of Rouman popular poetry.

M. PAUL LACROIX, better known, perhaps, as "bibliophile Jacob," has just issued the last of the four volumes upon the history of French society since the Middle Ages upon which he has been engaged for the past fifteen years. It is entitled *XVII<sup>e</sup> Siècle: Lettres, Sciences, Arts*; and it is published by Firmin Didot, with seventeen chromo-lithographs and three hundred wood-cuts illustrating the art of the period.

WE are sorry to find that the craze for making Lord Bacon the author of Shakspeare's plays still prevails in America. Here is a Mrs. C. F. Ashmead Windle, "a widow lady of social standing and culture," we are told, in San Francisco, who has printed an "Address to the New Shakspeare Society of London. Discovery of Lord Verulam's undoubted Authorship of the Shakspeare Works," entreating the society to accept her supposed revelation, to enable her financially to come to London, disclose her interpretations of the other plays, publish them, and thus ensure the restitution of the dramas to Lord Verulam. The appeal seems odd to a society all of whose leading members are known ridiculers of the Bacon monomania, and whose founder printed, in 1877, his opinion that all promoters of that theory must either know nothing of Bacon or Shakspeare, or be joking or mad. But still the appeal has been made, and is founded on Mrs. Windle's interpretation of *Cymbeline*, the value of which may be fairly judged from the meaning given by her to the *dramatis persona*, as she calls them:—"MORGAN: My Organ (meaning the *Novum Organum*). GUIDERIUS: As a guide (other-

wise called POLYDORE: Many Ores, The Learned Philosopher). . . . QUEEN: *Second Wife to Cymbeline*: The existing day or generation of British Fame. IMOGEN: Image-in (Imagination depicted);" and so on. In accordance with this scheme of interpretation, the tablet (V. iv. 109) which Jupiter orders to be laid on Posthumus's breast while he sees the vision in his dream, and which tablet Posthumus speaks of as "A book? O rare one!"—this tablet or book is declared to be the First Folio of Shakspeare's plays, committed confidently by Bacon to posterity, in the assurance that Mrs. Ashmead Windle would arise and restore it to him in the face of an admiring world.

WE have received from Messrs. Bentley the first instalment of their new edition of Miss Ferrier's novels. This consists of *Marriage*, forming two volumes. There is prefixed a short notice of the authoress, somewhat overcrowded with quotations, and criticisms, and notes; and Miss Ferrier's own Reminiscences of Walter Scott, which appeared in *Temple Bar* for February 1874. We make bold to congratulate the publishers upon the fitting garb in which they have dressed this "Edinburgh edition." As Miss Ferrier shrank from public gaze in her lifetime, so are her works unfitted to appear, with illustrations, in an *édition de luxe*. A pen-and-ink drawing, or perhaps a *silhouette*, is all that we ask for, if such a thing be forthcoming. The plain type is excellent for reading; and the plain binding is no less appropriate for the use to which such books are destined—to be read and re-read. We have no space to enter upon the comparison that is naturally challenged between Miss Ferrier and her two compeers from the sister kingdoms—Jane Austen and Maria Edgeworth. Suffice to say that her characteristics were profoundly affected by the Edinburgh society of her time; and herein lies the justification of the name—"Edinburgh edition."

MESSRS. T. J. SMITH, SON, AND CO., of Queen Street, Cheapside, have sent us no less than nine of their large stock of diaries, calendars, &c. Out of this lot it will be hard if we cannot find one or two to suit ourselves, and friends to suit the rest.

#### THE HYMN OF CHAUCER'S OXFORD CLERK.

"ANGELUS AD VIRGINEM."

HERE are the complete versions. I stupidly trusted to my informant's assurance that the second part of this hymn did not belong to it, and so at first I hastily copied the first part only.

As usual in all these Chaucer matters, Mr. Bradshaw has been ahead of the rest of us. About ten years ago he was so much taken with the complicated stanza, and the remarkable modernness of the tune, that he copied it out several times in modern notation from the two MSS. of it in his Cambridge University Library, both of the fourteenth century, and both giving the music, as the Arundel MS. also does. But he unluckily forgot Chaucer's mention of the Hymn, and that is why we have had to wait till now for its publication.

ENGLISHED (rymes *ababcc, dde, cec*).

Arundel MS. 284, leaf 154, circ. 1250-60 A.D.

1.

Gabriel fram evene king	
señt to be maiden swete,	
broute* hire blisful tiding.	
And faire be gan hire greten	4
"Heil be þu, ful of grace arith!	
"for godes sone, þis evene lith	6
"so* for mannes louen,	
"wile man bicomen,	
"and taken	9



"fles of þe maiden brith,  
"ma[n]ken fre for to maken  
"of sennæ and deules mith." 12

2.  
Middeliche im gan andsweren  
þe milde maiden þanne :  
"wiche wise sold ichs beren  
child with-huten manne?" 16  
þangle seide, "ne dred te nout !  
"þurw poligast sal ben iwrount  
"þis ilche þing,  
"warof tiding  
"ichs bringe : 21  
"al manken wrth ibout  
"þur þi swete chiltinge  
"and hut of pine ibrount." 24

3.  
Wan þe maiden understud,  
and þangles wordes þerde,  
middeliche, with milde mud,  
to þangle þe andwerde : 28  
"Hure lordes þenmaiden, iwis  
"ics am, þat her abouen is ;  
"aneftis me  
"fulfurþed be 30  
"þi sawe,  
"þat ics, sithen his wil is,  
"maiden, with-huten lawe,  
"of moder hauer þe blis." 36

4.  
þangle wente a-wel mid þan,  
al hut of hire sichte ;  
and þire wombe arise gan,  
þurw poligastes mithe ; 40  
in hire was crist biloken anon,  
suth god, soth man, ine fleas and bon ; 42  
and of hire fleas  
iboren was  
at time,  
war-þurw us kam god won,  
þe bout us hut of pine,  
and let him for us slon.† 48

5.  
Maiden moder makeles,  
of milche ful ibunden,  
Bid for hus, im þat þe ohes,  
at wam þu grace funde, 52  
þat þe forgiue hus sennæ and wrake,  
and olene of euri gelt us make,  
and eune blis,  
wan hure time is  
to steruen, 57  
hus giue, for þine sake,  
him so her for to seruen,  
þat þe us to him take. 60

THE LATIN ORIGINAL :  
"Angelus ad Virginem."

1.  
Angelus ad uirginem  
subintrans in conclaue,  
Virginis formidinem  
demulcens inquit, "Aue !  
"Aue regina uirginum,  
"celi terreque domina ! † 6  
"concupies,  
"& paries,  
"intacta, 9  
"salutem hominum,  
"tu, porta celi facta,  
"medela criminum." 12

2.  
"Quomodo conciperem,  
"que uirum non cognoui ?  
"qualiter infringerem  
"quod firma mente noui !  
"Spiritus sancti gracia,  
"perficiet hec omnia.  
"ne timeas,  
"sed gaudeas  
"secura ; 21  
"quod castimonia  
"manebit in te pura,  
"dei potencia." 24

3.  
Ad hec, uirgo nobilis,  
respondens inquit ei,  
"Ancilla sum humilis  
"omnipotentis dei, 28

"tibi celesti nuncio  
"tanti secreti conscio, 30  
"consentians  
"& cupiens  
"uidere 33  
"factum quod audio,  
"parata sum parere  
"dei consilio." 36

4.  
Angelus disparuit,  
& statim puellaris  
uterus intumuit,  
ui partus salutaris, 40  
quo circumdatur utero,  
nouem mensium numero ; 42  
post exiit,  
& inuit  
conflictum, 45  
affigens humero  
crucem qui dedit letum  
soli mortifero. 48

5.  
Eya mater domini  
que pacem reddidisti  
Angelis & homini 52  
cum Christum genuisti !  
tuum exora filium,  
ut se nobis propicium  
exhibeat,  
& deleat 54  
peccata,  
prestans auxilium,  
uita frui beata,  
post hoc exilium. Amen. 60

\* e and so are overline insertions.  
† The MS. looks like "aloy ;" but the y is meant  
for a tailed final a.  
‡ The rhyme requires "dominum."

F. J. FURNIVALL.

#### THE PRESS OF THE "AL-JAWÂIB."

DURING the late suspension of the *al-Jawâib* for six months the press of that journal has been busy in printing several important Arabic works. Among these are :—

(1) *Majâllatu-'l-Ahkâmî-'l-Adliyyah* : a Treatise on the Ordinances and Proceedings of the Law Courts. Second Edition, with the *imprimatur* of the Corporation of Muslim Shaikhs.

(2) The *Diwân* (Poemata) of Abu-'l-Fadhl, with an Appendix containing the *Diwân* of Jamâlu-'d-Dîn Yâhya, both treating of the Aesthetics of Morals.

(3) *The Rhyming Prose of the Dove on Human Happiness*, by Shâmsu-'d-Dîn Muhâmmad. The hemistichos on each argument are alphabetically arranged.

(4) The *Makâmât* of Jalâlu-'d-Dîn on Morals and Science.

(5) The *Makâmât* of Abu-'l-Fadhl.

(6) Six Treatises on Philosophy and the Natural Sciences, by Abu-'Aly; with an Appendix containing a translation from the Greek, by Hunain-bin-Is-hâk.

(7) Three Opuscles, one on the Coins of Islâm, by Takîyyu-'d-Dîn; another entitled *Gleanings on the Wavy Streaks of Swords*, by Kamâlu-'d-Dîn; and the third, a miscellaneous collection of Poems, Odes, &c., by Yâkût.

(8) *The Sheddings of Flowers by Day and by Night*, or Notes on the Sciences in general, especially Philosophy and Astronomy, by Muhâmmad-bin-Jalâlu-'d-Dîn.

(9) On the Declensions in Grammar, by Abu-'l-Fadhl-Ahmad, the eminent grammarian.

(10) *A Description of Malta, and an Insight into the Sciences of Europe*, by Ahmad Fâris, the proprietor of the *al-Jawâib*, the first edition of which was printed at Tunis. The same venerable and learned author is carrying through the press his *al-Jâssu-'ala-'l-Kâmâs*, an elaborate criticism on the famous Lexicon of al-Fairûz-

âbâdy, on which he has been engaged for many years.

The *al-Jawâib*, under the editorship of Salim Fâris, the son of Ahmad Fâris, maintains its pre-eminence as a political and literary journal, as well as a newspaper, over all the Arabic papers published abroad. Its severe animadversions on the invasion of Tunis by the French have added greatly to its influence and circulation among the Muslims throughout the East.

GEORGE PERCY BADGER.

#### A NEWS-LETTER IN THE REIGN OF QUEEN ANNE.

London July 15. 1703

Sr

The Ambassade<sup>r</sup> of Ffrance in Switzerland has Represented in particular to the Deputies of Bern, & Zurich that he has Ord<sup>r</sup> from ye King his Master to Declare to them his Displeasure at their Opposing y<sup>e</sup> Progress of his Army in Germany, & y<sup>t</sup> if they withdraw not their Troups w<sup>ch</sup> they have put into Lindau, or if they send any more towards the Lake of Constance to y<sup>e</sup> assistance of y<sup>e</sup> Imperialists they shall treat y<sup>em</sup> as Enemies. Upon w<sup>ch</sup> they have resolv'd to return him this Answer. That as they cannot hinder ye King his Master from doing what he shall think is most for his service; they hope y<sup>t</sup> his Ma<sup>ty</sup> will not take it a-miss if y<sup>e</sup> Cantons do y<sup>e</sup> same, & repell force by force, as also y<sup>t</sup> they persist in their Resolutions of sending more Troups to Lindau, & in Defending y<sup>e</sup> Imp<sup>l</sup> frontiers.

Since y<sup>e</sup> E<sup>of</sup> of Bavaria has made himself Master of all Tyrol he has resolv'd to enter into Croetia, & to y<sup>e</sup> end has already taken a Pais at y<sup>e</sup> Entrance into y<sup>e</sup> Valley of Baal [?]. At Vienna they push on y<sup>e</sup> affayr of warr & the finances with y<sup>e</sup> utmost application. Bat y<sup>e</sup> new President of y<sup>e</sup> Chamber is puzl'd to find out new wayes & means for y<sup>e</sup> maintenance of y<sup>e</sup> Imp<sup>l</sup> forces : In y<sup>e</sup> meantime he has sent an Expres to Italy with a Remittance of 5 or 600000 Ducats for y<sup>e</sup> payment of y<sup>e</sup> forces there.

The Armeyes under P. Lewis & Villars continue in their former Poste, & dayly Recounters happen between their Parteyes. And they write from Dillingen of y<sup>e</sup> 11 that y<sup>e</sup> Evening before there happened a Rencontre between two Considerable Parteyes of y<sup>e</sup> Imperialists & french, w<sup>ch</sup> Lasted ab<sup>t</sup> 3<sup>q</sup>rs of an hour, in w<sup>ch</sup> a great many men & horses were kill'd And a Squad<sup>n</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Enemy flankt the Germans, but were at last beaten into their Camp. The Mareschall de Villars has layd 3 Bridges over y<sup>e</sup> Danube, & has pass'd over most of his Cavalry The E<sup>of</sup> of Bavaria is arriv'd from Tyrol, & has joynd him. The Armeyes und<sup>r</sup> M<sup>l</sup> Tabard is upon pasing y<sup>e</sup> Rhine at flort Kiel to make an Eruption into y<sup>e</sup> Country of Wortembourg, in ord<sup>r</sup> to open by the Vally of Kinlingen a Communicat<sup>n</sup> with y<sup>e</sup> Army under Villars. But Gen<sup>l</sup> Thungen is in readyness to Oppose him.

The Archduke Charles is Expected very sodainly at Dufeldorf. a Merch<sup>t</sup> at Liege has undertaken to get his Equipage ready at his arrivall for 15000 Crownes. The Allies have cutt down a wood in ord<sup>r</sup> to attack y<sup>e</sup> ffr : Army in Brabant, & y<sup>e</sup> States having given y<sup>e</sup> D<sup>of</sup> of Marlborough in y<sup>e</sup> Last Councelle of warr a Discretionary Power to fight if he has an Oportunity a sodain Action is Expected.

Edenb : y<sup>e</sup> 7. The Houfe Today proceeded upon y<sup>e</sup> Consideration of such part of y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup> Privy Seale's Act for security of y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom, w<sup>ch</sup> they had not yet [got?] through, and in y<sup>e</sup> first Place fletcher Laird of Saltoun made a Long and nipping Speech, y<sup>e</sup> Drift of w<sup>ch</sup> was to usher in his 12 Articles of Limitation upon y<sup>e</sup> Success<sup>r</sup> to be chosen by y<sup>e</sup> Convention of Estates after her Maty's Decease or at least some of y<sup>em</sup> to be Inserted in this Act, w<sup>ch</sup> was seconded by Duke Hamilton, who drew an Argument from her Maty's Lett<sup>r</sup> to y<sup>e</sup> Parliament, as also from his grace's & y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>d</sup> Chancellor's Speeches of an Assurance y<sup>t</sup> if anything was wanting for y<sup>e</sup> satisfaction & security of her People, y<sup>t</sup> Shee was ready to grant it, & y<sup>t</sup> now was y<sup>e</sup> time. This was answer'd by y<sup>e</sup> Com<sup>rs</sup> [?] Grace & my L<sup>d</sup> Chancellor, y<sup>t</sup> nothing was meant of any Alteration of y<sup>e</sup> Constitution of y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom,

& reminded y<sup>e</sup> House howe fatale such Practices had been to y<sup>e</sup> nation by ending in Blood & Confusion from 41 to 43 & that her Ma<sup>y</sup> intended not to put Limitations upon her Success<sup>r</sup> Saltoun after this made Base Reflexions, & was like (but he excus'd himself) to be call'd to y<sup>e</sup> Bar. In fine 'twas put to the vote whether Limitations or no to this Act, & carry'd in y<sup>e</sup> negative by 31 voices. The English Russia fleet of about 70 Saile with 7 or 8 men of war their convoy are still in Leith Road. On y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Cloudsly Showell with y<sup>e</sup> fleet under his Command & near 300 Merchant Ships past by fflmouth for Lisbon &c. Yesterday the Ratification of y<sup>e</sup> Late Treaty with y<sup>e</sup> K: of Portugal pass'd y<sup>e</sup> Great Seale; & I hear the Duke of Buckingham, & y<sup>e</sup> Earle of Pembroke are appointed to Complement the Arch Duke of Austria upon his arrivall. The Queen will set out for y<sup>e</sup> Bath y<sup>e</sup> 6 Prox<sup>o</sup>. They talk y<sup>t</sup> my Lord Portland is going to y<sup>e</sup> Court of Hannover, & will be accompani'd by y<sup>e</sup> Marquis of Hartford. Sir Stephen flux is marry'd to one M<sup>rs</sup> Hope, a young gentlewoman y<sup>t</sup> was brought up in his family.

#### THE CONDITION OF LEARNING IN POLAND AT THE PRESENT DAY.

[We have received the following letter from Warsaw, from a correspondent who compliments us by styling himself a constant subscriber to the ACADEMY. It was written in English; and we therefore print it with such modifications only of language as are absolutely necessary.]

After the closing of the Universities of Warsaw and Vilna in 1830, Poland remained for many years without any institutions for the higher learning, and there followed a long stagnation in the intellectual world. The only labourers left in science were the former students; and the death of each of these made a gap that was not filled up. The universities of Cracow and Lemberg also became Germanised, and the Poles were thus deprived of their last intellectual leaders. Except some young men who had previously studied at these universities, no one occupied himself with writing. During this melancholy period foreign schools supplied our wants in the way of science. Maciejowski, Wiszniewski, a writer of history, Trentowski, a philosopher, Liebelt and Kremer, authors of works on aesthetics, and many others were all educated abroad. Warsaw yielded only a few lawyers—Dutkiewicz, Hube, and Wolowski.

Twenty years ago there came a welcome change. The principal schools in Warsaw were opened in 1862; and about the same time the two universities of Galicia were restored to the Poles. Very soon appeared a group of young students who worked at history, and made their own the masterpieces of foreign literatures. Even some time before this a commencement had been made in publishing the old Polish metrical records—*Privilegia regum, magnorum ducum, bullae pontificum, et jura a privatis data*. The example was set by Bandtke (*Jus Polonicum*, 1831), Muczkowski (*Codex diplomaticus*, 1847), and Heleel of Cracow, who devoted all his life to this cause (*Monumenta et Consuetudines*). Among their followers were Bielowski of Lemberg (*Monumenta veteris Poloniae*, 1865) and Danilowicz of Vilna (*Treasury of Records*, 1860). Many rich nobles also came forward to print the historical documents in their own possession or in the public archives. Thus arose the Museum of Swidzinski, the Library of Myszkowski (1860), and valuable publications of Czartoryski (*Litterae Nuntiorum*, Vienna, 1860), of Prince Lubomirski (*Codex diplomaticus Masoviae*, 1863), of Count Raczyński (*Statuta Ducatus Lithuaniae*, Poznan, 1847), and others containing old monuments of history and law.

The University of Warsaw is divided into the four faculties of medicine, history with phil-

ology, jurisprudence, and natural science with mathematics. The first of these to bloom was the faculty of medicine, perhaps because it had the oldest tradition. The medical faculty at Vilna had been suppressed in 1836, and the Academy of Medicine in Warsaw began to be active again in 1857. In this department the late Prof. Girsztowt did great service. He bought a press, at which were printed many books written or translated by himself; and he founded two professional journals. This encouraged many young men, who followed in his steps and naturalised in the Polish language the rich medical literature of England, France, and Germany. Apart from this, there was also much fertility in original production. We can only mention the names of Luczkiewicz, Dobieszewski, Chomentowski, Kosmowski, a specialist for the diseases of infants, Rogowicz, and Dobrski, who founded a sanitary journal.

Philosophy, before cultivated by students of foreign universities, began to revive in the path of the positive school. The adherents of Hegel are no more, and their place is taken by new men who have introduced to us the masterpieces of English literature. To this class belongs Father Krupinski, the translator of Bain's *Logic and Education as a Science*. Among the writers on philosophy of the last generation we may mention Ochowski, Goldberg, Swien-tochowski, who abandoned the metaphysical tradition and worked principally in the field of psychology. Canon Nowodworski, Kozlowski, Morawski, and Goluchowski published many philosophical articles from the Catholic point of view. Prof. Struve, of Warsaw, Count Tarnowski and Dzieduszycki, at Cracow, are known by their study of aesthetics; and the first of these has the merit of having encouraged from his professorial chair many young men to the pursuit of philosophy. Lastly, Smolikowski is now writing on the history of philosophy, and Skrochowski and Molicki on psychology.

Historical studies are concentrated in the Cracow Academy of Science, founded by the Emperor of Austria. This institution has a special department for printing old sources and MSS., and to it we owe Szujski's *Liber Epistolarius*, Piekosinski's *Monumenta medii aevi*, Sadowski's *Channels of Ancient Slav Commerce*, and Sokolowski's *Old Ruins in Lednica*. A celebrated Lemberg collection, *Records of the Bernardines*, contains notarial acts and judicial decisions some centuries old. At Warsaw, the same study has been taken up by Adolph Pawinski, professor in the university and keeper of the archives. He has already published ten volumes of historical records; and to him also we owe a translation of Macaulay's *History of England*. Nor must we omit the following authors of historical works—Kubala (*Historical Essays*), Kantecki (*The King's Father, Poniatowski*), Jarochoowski, and Smolka (*Mecislaus the Old and his Epoch*)—who belong to the school of Szajnocha, and, instead of wearying their readers with disquisitions, give them interesting narratives, with the lightness of novels. All these are now living in Galicia, and profiting by the rich archives at Cracow and Lemberg. With them we must mention Zakrzewski, a young professor at Cracow, who has written some monographs about the reformation in Poland; and Prochaska, the collector of original sources. In Warsaw we have Smolinski, who is investigating some curious chapters of our past (*The Nobles in Servitude to the Priests and The Opinions of the Nobles in the Eighteenth Century*); and Plebanski, formerly a professor in the philological faculty.

To the historians of fine art belong Luczkiewicz and Sokolowski. Upon archaeological enquiries are engaged Count Zawisza and Mathias Bersohn, who have spent large sums of money upon excavations. In this connexion we may mention some antiquities dug up near

Plock by the priest Brykczynski and Tarczynski. Among reviewers, we have Count Tarnowski, a professor at Cracow; Father Knapinski, a critic of historical and Biblical literature; Kaszewski, a dramatic critic; and, lastly, Mdme. Konopnicka, a celebrated poetess, whose critical essays appear in the illustrated paper *Kłosy*. We may here remark that there is no special organ for criticism, which has to seek an asylum in ordinary periodicals.

The law is very scantily represented. The use of a foreign language in legal procedure has exercised an injurious influence. Although we possess a legal periodical, I am not able to point to a single dissertation worthy of remark. For the history of Slavonian legislation there exists the monumental work of Maciejowski, whose pupil, Bobrzynski, published many interesting treatises about Polish legislation; but with this exception the present generation has produced no legal authors. Burzynski, Laguna, Ozajkowski, and Dutkiewicz (a very partial writer) belong to the past. Among earlier writers, special praise is due to Hube for his *Polish Legislation in the Thirteenth Century*. Of students of the modern law, we may cite—Holewinski (civilian), Zieleniacki and Okerski (Romanists), Okolski and Rembowski (administrative law), Jezioranski (procedure), and Flamm (commercial law). I may add that Galicia has two celebrated professors, Supinski and Bilinski, whose studies in political economy confer credit on our national literature.

The natural sciences have progressed in recent years, though the only weekly scientific paper is dead for lack of subscribers. Among specialists who have acquired some reputation are Cienkowski, professor of botany; Dybowski and Wrzesniewski, professors of zoology, both living in Russia; Strassburger, professor at Jena in Germany; Waga, Jelski, and Stolzmann, famous travellers who have advanced the knowledge of zoology; Girdwayn, an apiarist and observer of bees and their ways; and Rostafinski, Professor of Botany at Cracow. Of the younger scientific men at Warsaw, Milizer and Dziewulski are known by their lectures; Boguski (chemistry), Baraniecki and Gosiewski (mathematics), and Kramstiek (physics) are known by their writings. Mdme. Zaleska is now publishing a series of papers on the progress of physics in our weekly illustrated paper *Kłosy*. Prof. Jurkiewicz has rendered important services to our scientific literature by his translations and by his editorial labours. His latest work is *The Physiographical Review*.

The study of national philology has suffered from the adoption of the Russian language in the schools and the university, and has transferred itself to Galicia. Malecki, the author of an historical grammar, lives at Lemberg; and the Academy of Cracow has a special department for philology, in connexion with which Lucyan Malinowski and some other young men are working. Father Francis Malinowski, who lived in Prussia, and is celebrated for his researches in Sanskrit, was for many years disabled from active work by a painful illness, from which he died last year. His *Critical Polish Grammar* will ever be our boast. Of other philologists, we may distinguish Baudouin de Courtenay, professor at Kazan, a student of Slavonian languages; and Joseph Przyborowski, librarian to Count Zamoyski.

To complete this recital, we must mention some works of general literature—*The Ecclesiastical Encyclopaedia*, edited by Canon Nowodvorski, a monumental work, of which fourteen volumes have been published, ending with the letter M; *The Encyclopaedia of Agriculture*, written by competent authorities under the direction of a committee; *The Encyclopaedia of Education*, carried as far as the letter D; and a *General Geographical Dictionary* of



Poland, promoted by Prince Lubomirski and M. Walewski.

Our monthly journals belong to literature, and wear the character of scientific publications. These are the *Athenaeum*, a very serious periodical, conducted at the expense of Spasowicz; the *Biblioteka Warszawska*, a monthly Review of Polish and foreign literature, science, and the fine arts, conducted by a very capable editor, Plebanski; the *Niwa* (cornfield), a fortnightly journal, edited by Godlewski, and devoted to the defence of large landed estates. The two last are supported by the nobility. Besides these, some archaeological and historical monthlies are published at Cracow and Lemberg.

Speaking generally, the condition of learning in Poland seems to be perceptibly improving. Thanks to the liberality of a certain class of Poles who admire knowledge, many useful works have been produced. Authors writing on special subjects can always find the means to publish, and sometimes even receive payment for their labour, which was not the case twenty years ago. Some of our masterpieces have been translated (Maciejowski and Sadowski); others were written in French (Klaczko, Kowalski the astronomer, Lelewel, and Wyzinski); others in English (Krasinski, Szyrma, and Wiszniewski)—which has proved of great profit to our national literature. ADAM NIEMIROWSKI.

## SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

### GENERAL LITERATURE.

- ALBUM des Artistes Scandinaves: quatorze Dessins originaux, reproduits par l'héliogravure Dujardin. Paris: Baschet. 30 fr.
- BALLESTRIN, E. Gräfin. Im Glanze der Krone. Biographische Skizzen regierender Fürstinnen aller Zeiten u. Länder. 3. Lfg. Berlin: Duncker. 14 M.
- BEAUMONT, M. de. L'Espée et les Femmes: cinq Dessins inédits de Meissonnier. Paris: Lib. des Bibliophiles. 30 fr.
- BOHN, R. Der Tempel der Athena Polias zu Pergamon. Berlin: Dümmler. 2 M.
- DOERFFEL, W. u. A. Ueb. die Verwendung v. Terrakotten am Giebel u. Dache griechischer Bauwerke. Berlin: Reimer. 2 M. 40 Pf.
- FERRAZZI, G. J. Bibliografia Aristotesta. Milano: Hoepli. 3 fr. 50 c.
- FURNICH, J. Ritter v. Die Legende vom heiligen Wendelin in 13 Zeichnungen. Wien: Gesellsch. f. vervielfältigende Kunst. 24 M.
- GABRIAC, le Comte de. A l'entour du Monde: Inde, Chine, Japon. Paris: Calmann Lévy. 8 fr.
- GUERIN, J. La Terre Sainte: son Histoire, ses Souvenirs, ses Sites, ses Monuments. Paris: Plon. 50 fr.
- GUYPREY, J. Antoine van Dyck, sa Vie et son Œuvre. Paris: Quantin. 100 fr.
- LINDNER, G. Das Feuer. Eine culturhistor. Studie. Brunn: Rohrer. 6 M.
- MARAK, J. Österreichs Wald-Charaktere. Wien: Gesellsch. f. vervielfältigende Kunst. 30 M.
- MUELLER, H. Die preussische Justizverwaltung. Berlin: Kuhn. 10 M.
- REINACH, J. Les Réclivistes. Paris: Charpentier. 3 fr. 50 c.
- SAMBAUER, E. Walther v. der Vogelweide. Laibach: v. Kleinmayr. 2 M. 60 Pf.
- SATLOFF, E. de Jérusalem. Paris: V. Morel. 20 fr.
- SEPP, J. N. u. B. Die Felsenkuppel. Eine Justinian. Sophienkirche u. die übrigen Tempel Jerusalems. München: Kellner. 3 M.
- STREVE, F. Ueb. die ältesten halbjährigen Zeitungen od. Mes-relationen u. insbesondere deren Begründer Frhn. Michael v. A. tzniz. München: Franz. 3 M.
- WEDDIGER, F. H. O. Geschichte der Einwirkungen der deutschen Literatur auf die Literatur der übrigen europäischen Kulturvölker der Neuzeit. Leipzig: Wigand. 2 M. 50 Pf.

### THEOLOGY.

- BECK, J. T. Vorlesungen üb. christliche Ethik. Hrg. v. J. Lindemayer. 1. Bd. Gütersloh: Bertelsmann. 6 M. 75 Pf.

### HISTORY.

- AULARD, F. A. Les Orateurs de l'Assemblée constituante. Paris: Hachette. 7 fr. 50 c.
- JANSEN, J. Geschichte d. deutschen Volkes seit dem Ausbruch d. Mittelalters. 3. Bd. Freiburg-i.Br.: Herder. 7 M. 50 Pf.
- KOESTLIN, J. Luther's Leben. Leipzig: Fues. 8 M.
- LEHMANN, M. Preussen u. die katholische Kirche seit 1640. Nach den Acten d. geheimen Staatsarchivs. 2. Thl. 1740-47. Leipzig: Hirzel. 16 M.
- MUKEDTER, F. Kurzgefasste Geschichte Babyloniens u. Assyriens nach den Keilschriftentexten. Mit Beigaben d. F. Delitzsch. Stuttgart: Gundert. 3 M.
- RIEDER, R. Johann III., König v. Polen, sobieski, in Wien. Wien: Braumüller. 4 M.

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- ARENDT, R. Technik der Experimentalchemie. 2. Bd. 3. Lfg. Leipzig: Voss. 3 M.
- BEILSTEIN, F. Handbuch der organischen Chemie. 8. Lfg. Leipzig: Voss. 8 M.
- COHN, F. Die Pflanzen. Vorträge aus dem Gebiete der Botanik. Breslau: Korn. 11 M.
- GREMLI, A. Neue Beiträge zur Flora der Schweiz. 2. Hft. Anst. Christen. 1 M.
- HEER, O. Contributions à la Flore fossile du Portugal. Zürich: Wurster. 16 M.
- MEYER, A. B. Ueb. künstlich deformirte Schädel v. Bornéo u. Mindanao im k. k. zoologischen Museum zu Dresden. Leipzig: Teubner. 6 M.
- PFEFFER, W. Pflanzenphysiologie. Ein Handbuch d. Stoffwechsels u. Kraftwechsels in der Pflanze. 2. Bd. Kraftwechsel. Leipzig: Engelmann. 10 M.
- PFITZER, E. Grundsätze u. vergleichende Morphologie der Orchideen. Heidelberg: Winter. 40 M.
- ROSE, W. H. Biologische Probleme, zugleich als Versuch e. rationalen Ethik. Leipzig: Engelmann. 3 M.
- STUR, D. Die Silur-Flora der Etage H-bi in Böhmen. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 4 M. 50 Pf.
- ZIMMERMANN, R. Anthroposophie im Umriss. Wien: Braumüller. 6 M.

### PHILOLOGY, ETC.

- CAEVAUX, J., P. SAGOT et L. ADAM. Grammaires et Vocabulaires arrouaige, piacoco et d'autres Langues de la Région des Guyanes. Paris: Maisonneuve. 25 fr.
- CURTIS, E. Alterthum u. Gegenwart. Gesammelte Reden u. Vorträge. 2. Bd. Berlin: Besser. 7 M.
- EWALD, L. Grammatik der Tai-od. stamischen Sprache. Leipzig: Weigel. 9 M.
- GABRIEL, G. v. d. Chinesische Grammatik. Leipzig: Weigel. 33 M.
- OEHRMICHEN, G. De compositione epistoliarum tragicarum graecae externae. Pars I. Erlangen: Deichert. 2 M.
- ROMAN, L. de Renart, publié par E. Martin. 1<sup>re</sup> Vol. 1<sup>re</sup> Partie du Texte: L'ancienne Collection des Branches. Strasbourg: Trübner. 10 M.
- SCHENKL, H. Plautinische Studien. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 1 M. 40 Pf.
- STATI epichalamion (Silv. I. 2). Denuo ed. A. Herzog. Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel. 1 M. 80 Pf.
- UHLIG, G. Appendix artis Dionysii Thracis ab G. U. recensitae. Leipzig: Teubner. 1 M. 60 Pf.
- UNTERSUCHUNGEN, philologische. Hrg. v. A. Kiessling u. U. v. Wilamowitz-Möllendorf. 4. Hft. Antigonos v. Karystos. Berlin: Weidmann. 6 M.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### AN ORIENTAL BESTIARY.

Wood Green, N.: Dec. 10, 1881.

In the Middle Ages we meet with curious moralisations on animals. The "Exeter-book" (a collection of Anglo-Saxon poetry, edited by B. Thorpe, 1842) contains two specimens of an ancient *liber physiologus*, one on the panther, and the other on the whale (pp. 355-60).

Mr. Thomas Wright published a French translation, by Philippe de Thaun, of the Latin Bestiary of Thetibaldus in "Popular Treatises on Science" (London, 1841); and the present writer, in "An Old English Miscellany" (Early-English Text Society), edited an Early English version (pp. 1-26), together with the Latin original by Thetibaldus (pp. 210-60).

In the introduction to "Popular Treatises," Mr. Wright called attention to the curious Oriental tales that often accompanied these "moralisations," but offered no opinion as to the probable or possible source of the stories. It is not at all improbable that the "moralisations," like the fable, may be traced back, through some source or other, to India. In the *Milinda-pañha*—a work which the editor thinks was translated from Sanskrit—there is a curious series of similes, metaphors, and "moralisations" on animate and inanimate objects, not unlike those we find in our western Bestiaries. They are contained in the *Isaṭṭhassa-pañha*\* section (pp. 363-419 of the Pāli text; pp. 536-624 of the Sinhalese translation, ed. 1878), the *mātika*, or index, to which contains many more subjects for moralisation than are noticed in the text. The Pāli collection, however, is much more extensive than our Western ones. The beginning of some of the sentences in the Pāli remind us of similar ones in the Early English Bestiary. Thus, "the hert haveth kindes two" (l. 307),

\* *Isaṭṭho*, not in Childers, means an "archer," and corresponds to Sanskrit *ishvastra*.

may be compared with "migassa tñi angāni gahetabbāni," the term *angam* corresponding to the Old-English *kinde* (or *lage*), Latin *natura*. In the Latin, and other versions derived from it, the moralisations are applied to the Christian, but in the Pāli text to the Buddhist devotee (*yogi*). We cull a few examples from the Pāli version.

The ascetic, or meditative priest, is to observe and imitate the one special quality of the

Ass\* (*ghorassara*, an epithet for *gadrabha*). This animal has not much of a bed, but sleeps on a dust-heap, at the meeting of four roads at the entrance of a village, on a heap of chaff. So the ascetic is to be contented with scanty bedding—with a strip of skin spread wherever he intends to sleep, whether it be on a layer of grass or leaves, or sticks, or on the ground.

The SQUIRREL (p. 368) has one quality to be noted and imitated. When it is attacked by a foe it uses its tail as a cudgel, and with lusty blows puts the enemy to flight. So the *yogi*, when he is attacked by his spiritual enemies (*i.e.*, the evil passions), should put them to flight with the staff of "earnest meditation."

The WHITE ANT (p. 392) has one noteworthy quality. Out of a leaf it makes itself a covering to go all over it, wherein it envelops itself; and, thus sheltered, goes about seeking for food. Even so should the contemplative mendicant go on his begging rounds, with the restraint of moral conduct as a covering (*silasainvara-chadanam*), without fear, and unpolluted by the world.

The SCORPION (p. 394) has one quality that should be imitated. It carries its weapon, or sting, in its tail, and goes about with tail upturned. So the "religious" should possess the sword of knowledge, and in his life should prominently display it. Thus living, he is freed from all fear, and invincible:—

"Nānakhaggam gahetvāna viharanto vipassako Parimuccati sabbabhayā, dappasaho ca so bhaveti."

The Hog (p. 397) has two qualities to be noted.

(1) In the hot and scorching time of summer he betakes himself to a pond. Just so should the *yogi*, when his mind is scorched, inflamed, and troubled by the evil feelings of anger or hatred, have recourse to the cool, ambrosial, and pleasant exercise of universal kindness (*mettābhāvanā*).

(2) The hog, having gone to a marsh or swamp, makes a trough in the earth by digging away with his snout, and lies therein. So the contemplative priest, burying his body in the trough of the mind, should be plunged in profound meditation (*dhammanantare*).

The OWL's (p. 403) two qualities are a pattern for the ascetic. (1) This creature is hostile to the crows,† and at night-time repairs to their abode and kills numbers of them. So the "mendicant" is to show hostility to ignorance, and, sitting alone in solitude, he is to destroy and root it out (of his own mind). (2) The owl loves seclusion. Even so should the "religious" delight and rejoice in solitude (for the exercise of meditation).

The LEECH's one noteworthy quality is as follows (p. 405):—Wherever the leech sticks, there it adheres firmly, and sucks blood. Just so should the devotee act; on whatever object (for meditation) his thought fastens itself, there he should firmly fix it, and from that meditation drink in the cloyless sweets of Nirvāna (*vimuttirasam asceanam*).

The SPIDER (p. 407) has one quality for imitation. It spreads its web and catches and eats every fly that gets entangled therein. Even so should the *yogi* spread the net of "earnest meditation" before the six avenues (*i.e.*, the six senses), and take and destroy every insect-like lust clinging thereto.

As an instance of moralisation on an inanimate

\* *Milinda-pañha*, p. 365. † See *Jātaka*, p. 270.

object, I take that on the PITCHER (*Kumbho*; p. 414). A full pitcher gives out no sound. Even so the devotee who has attained to perfection in learning, in the scriptures, and in the "path," is not to exhibit arrogance or pride, but, suppressing these, he should, with well-directed mind, be neither garrulous nor boasting. The quotation from the *Suttanipāṭa* that follows this comparison reminds us of our own proverbs, "Still waters run deep;" "the shallow murmur, but the deep are dumb."

"*Sanantā yanti kussubbhā  
Tunhi yāti mahodadhi.  
Yad-ānakani tam sanati,  
Yam pūram santam eva tam.  
Rittakumbhū pamo bālo,  
Rahado pūro va pandito ti.*"

"*Loud the shallow brook doth brawl,  
Silent flows the stream that's deep.  
Noise an emptiness betrays,  
Fullness gives no hollow sound.  
Fools half-empty pitchers seem,  
Wise men are the clear, full pools.*"

R. MORRIS.

#### LORD SHERBROOKE IN AUSTRALIA.

Edinburgh: Dec. 19, 1881.

Mr. Barnett Smith's letter in the last number of the ACADEMY quoting Lord Sherbrooke's poem awakened an old memory in my own mind. I was very well acquainted in Sydney with Mr. G. B. Barton, from whose volume, *Literature in New South Wales*, Mr. Barnett Smith has extracted this early poetical essay of Lord Sherbrooke's; and, if I remember aright, I copied out this very poem for Mr. Barton from the pages of the *Atlas* newspaper. I was then a boy just leaving school, with a dawning interest in literature, and, in conjunction with a younger brother of Mr. Barton's, was of some trifling assistance to that gentleman in writing out from early Australian newspapers such notes and extracts as he wished to preserve. In this way I read most of the then Mr. Lowe's poetical pieces, all of which, I think, appeared in the *Atlas* newspaper. The *Atlas* was one of the most ably written journals ever published in Australia, and it may interest your readers to know that Mr. Lowe was the chief among its contributors. I think that, in conjunction with Sir James Martin, now Chief Justice of New South Wales, he was also its editor. Mr. Lowe was at that time one of the leading members of the Australian Bar. His prose contributions to the *Atlas* were, to say truth, very much superior to his poetical efforts. They were, indeed, very trenchant specimens of the "leader," and have been thought little, if at all, inferior to his later contributions to the *Times*. The purpose of the "Australian Froscos" alluded to by Mr. Barnett Smith is thus described by Mr. Barton: "To make an imaginary painting the means of ridiculing the chief subjects of political satire at the time—an ingenious idea, ingeniously carried out."

ROBERT RICHARDSON.

#### "THE BOOK OF WISDOM."

Oxford: Dec. 20, 1881.

Permit me to say a few words with reference to the review in the last number of the ACADEMY of my edition of "The Book of Wisdom." Mr. Ball has somewhat marred his kindly and appreciative notice by attributing to me opinions which I am not conscious of having expressed, and crediting me with ignorance of which I am only partially guilty. As for "assuming that Solomon wrote Ecclesiastes," I have merely, in quoting a passage from that

book, remarked cursorily that Solomon says so and so; and, as to my affirming that "he is the author of the introduction to the Book of Proverbs," I have said nothing whatever about it. My expression (vii. 20) is simply: "Solomon, we are told, 1 Kings iv. 33, 'spake of trees,' &c." That "David wrote all the psalms" never crossed my imagination, nor can such an opinion be derived from my words: "If it could be proved that any of the psalms ascribed to David were written after his time" (p. 24). The parallelisms between v. 21 and Ps. vii. 13, and between vi. 6 and Prov. vi. 30, are quite close enough for my purpose, even as given in the Anglican version. I was not "unaware" that strophic arrangement, paronomasias, &c., are found in some portions of the Old Testament, and therefore I wrote cautiously of "appliances more or less foreign to Hebrew poetry." For the correction regarding *Memra* I am obliged. I should have called it Chaldee, not Hebrew, and said it was used by the paraphrasts on Scripture, not "in Scripture." For the rest, I am, as Mr. Ball suggests, unacquainted with Syriac and Arabic, and have had to rely upon Walton, Reusch, and Grimm for my knowledge of the readings in those versions. On the points which Mr. Ball has mentioned, I am thankful for being set right by so competent a scholar. Finally, the expression, "rejected . . . as inspired" (p. 39), is perhaps clumsy, but is not a "slip of the pen." It means, of course, rejected as far as inspiration is concerned.

W. J. DEANE.

#### AMERIGO SALVETTI.

South View, Bromley, Kent: Dec. 18, 1881.

The notice in last week's ACADEMY of a despatch of Amerigo Salvetti which Mr. C. Heath Wilson has been studying at Florence makes me think it worth while to remind English readers that they can study Salvetti's interesting letters nearer home, as a complete copy is in the British Museum.

SAMUEL R. GARDINER.

#### AN ARABIC GRAMMAR.

Combe Vicarage, near Woodstock: Dec. 17, 1881.

In the ACADEMY of to-day Dr. Badger writes thus as to the book "compiled by John Augustus Vullers, and published at Bonn in 1832":—"I am unable to quote the Latin title." It is as follows:—"Grammaticae Arabicæ elementa et formarum doctrina per tabulas descripta."

J. HOSKYNs-ABRAHAM.

#### SCIENCE.

##### MR. RHYS DAVIDS' HIBBERT LECTURES.

*Lectures on the Origin and Growth of Religion as illustrated by Some Points in the History of Indian Buddhism.* By T. W. Rhys Davids. (Williams & Norgate.)

THIS new volume of the Hibbert Lectures is distinguished by all Mr. Rhys Davids' most characteristic qualities, and they are qualities that make him as lucid and instructive an expositor as he is capable a scholar. These lectures, regarded simply from a literary point of view, are singularly bright and graceful, incisive in criticism, easy and flexible, familiar yet dignified in style, full of suggestive matter suggestively presented, and everywhere lighted up with a fine moral sincerity and enthusiasm for the higher ideals and nobler personalities of the faith described. Mr. Rhys Davids has the insight that comes of sympathy with what may be termed the Buddhism of

Buddha, without any of the blindness that belongs to apologetical or polemical zeal. When he is most the critical scholar, he never forgets that he is handling a religion; when he is most earnest as the interpreter of a religion, he never ceases to be critical and scholarly. His experience everywhere qualifies and directs his critical judgment. Buddhism is to him not simply an intellectual system, Oriental and therefore alien to the normal Western mind, but a religion whose moral ideals he has seen realised. And a moral ideal religiously realised exercises over a reverent nature a charm so strange and so strong that it can no more feel the religion able to create such ideals or inspire such persons to be either profane or unclean. Mr. Rhys Davids' reminiscence (pp. 186, 187) of Yātrāmullē Unnānsē is a point of real significance. "There was an indescribable attraction about him, a simplicity, a high-mindedness, that filled me with reverence." That Buddhist monk was, as it were, a necessary condition of Mr. Rhys Davids' right Orientation; without him, or one like him, he would not have been the interpreter of Buddhism we know him to be.

Yet fine in many respects as these lectures are—so fine that it would be easy to exhaust our space in their praise—we confess to considerable disappointment. It is, perhaps, wrong to criticise an author through the expectation formed as to what his work ought to be; but in this case it is hard to resist the temptation. We want to know so much about Buddhism, and Mr. Rhys Davids is able to tell us so much, that we grudge to see him spending his strength on what others less specially well furnished could do. It were beyond our province to discuss the question whether he has read the purpose of the Hibbert trustees aright; but certainly the way in which he could have best illustrated "the origin and growth of religion" would have been by a scientific history of Indian Buddhism. Perhaps no religion has an equal, certainly none has a higher, scientific significance. There is hardly a question connected with the genesis of religious beliefs and customs, the development of doctrines and rites, the organisation of orders and societies, it does not illustrate. It is an instituted religion, created by a great personality, standing in antithesis to an older system, out of which it rose by a process at once evolutionary and revolutionary. How much it and its author owed to this older system, both as regards what was appropriated and what, by way of contradiction and antithesis, they were forced to develop and affirm, is a point that still waits determination, though Mr. Rhys Davids has, by his Pali studies, helped to bring us indefinitely nearer it. Then, there is the action of Buddha on Buddhism, what he positively and personally contributed to it alike by what he said and did and was; and the still more important action of Buddhism on Buddha, idealising him, glorifying him, making him in a system that is not theistic hold the place and fulfil the functions of a God. May not the peculiar ethical spirit of Buddhism, the moral qualities in which it is most akin to Christianity, be due to its apotheosis of a singularly gentle and beautiful human personality? Then, this religion

\* See the *Nālaka sutta*, vv. 42, 43, p. 131, of Fausbøll's translation of the *Sutta-nipāṭa* ("Sacred Books of the East," vol. x.).



illustrates, better, perhaps, than any other, the formation of a body of sacred scriptures, of elaborate systems of doctrine, of clerical and sacerdotal orders, with correspondent modes and instruments of worship, and the behaviour of an historical and instituted faith under such new, modifying, or stimulating conditions as are supplied by time, place, race, and contact with varied alien religions, now inimical and now tolerant. I repeat, then, that nothing could so well illustrate the origin and growth of religion as a scientific history of Buddhism, while, on the other hand, nothing could be less illustrative than a series of selections from its history. For to be significant it must be exhibited in its organic completeness and movement, with its several parts in their vital and reciprocal activity and relations. Of course, the Hibbert Lectures forbade, by their very limits, so great an enterprise; but we should have been satisfied had the attempt been confined to the origin, growth, and constitution of primitive Buddhism. There is no man who could do this better than Mr. Rhys Davids; and he must allow us to say, where he is so well equipped for special work, he does himself injustice when he attempts comparative.

Were this the place, I would fain protest against the English love of "lectures." They are a waste of scholarship; they impose limits and prescribe ends that are an injury to science. They compel scholars to work under conditions that are, to say the least, most unfavourable. No one interested in the history of religions can regard the series of Hibbert Lectures with unmixed satisfaction. It would surely have been better had the scholars concerned been invited to prepare treatises rather than deliver lectures. If we compare the Hibbert series with the Dutch historical works on "De Voornaamste Godsdiensten," we may see what difference of result may be effected by difference of conditions. The Hibbert trustees have obtained most eminent scholars; but having to work as lecturers has made it impossible for them to produce works equal in classical or scientific value to Dozy's *Islamism*, van Oordt's *Religion of the Greeks*, Kuenen's *Religion of Israel*, or Kern's *Buddhism*, now in process of publication. It seems hardly too much to say that, were the conditions of production altered, we should have altered results.

But this general matter has carried us away from Mr. Rhys Davids; to him we return. The first lecture is interesting as containing a statement of his own philosophical position. (The speech of "the gentleman from Gray's Inn" is chiefly remarkable as anticipating the doctrine of Lord Herbert of Cherbury's own *De religione gentilitum*.) He says:—

"It is sufficient for our purpose that the beliefs of the remote ancestors of the Buddhists may be summed up as having resulted from that curious attitude of mind which is now designated by the word animism" (p. 13).

Now "animism" may be an excellent term, possibly, also, an excellent idea, for ethnographic or anthropological purposes, but not at all for historical or philosophical. Where a writer has to be mainly descriptive of real or imaginary societies at a given stage of

culture he can use no handier term than "animism;" but where he must be analytical, discover the actual contents of mind at a given period, and trace its movements and growth under new historical, ethnic, and geographical conditions, the term becomes quite insignificant. The evolution of mind is a rational evolution, a progressive articulation of what may be described as its idea. There is a logical order in the development of the collective or tribal, as of the individual, mind. What the scientific historical enquirer must discover is the living germ or premiss from which it starts. And our author finds, when he tries to apply, in the rigorous historical method, the animistic theory to the Hindus, that he has seriously to modify it (pp. 73 ff.). The simple truth is, their religion did not grow out of a belief as to the soul, but rather grew into it. All the historical evidence available goes to show that the theistic were more developed than the animistic beliefs of the Vedic men. The evidence is at once comparative and direct. The affinities of the Indo-European mythologies concern in a far higher degree their theistic than their animistic ideas; and, in the *Rig-Veda*, the doctrine as to the gods is far more highly developed and articulated than the doctrine as to the soul, the hymns most explicit on the latter being apparently also among the more modern. And this is no singular phenomenon. The gods have to Homer quite another reality than the forms or shades of the dead; the former are conceived as active beings, with an organisation of their own, but the latter are not substantial things, rather shadows of the most shadowy sort. Then, too, the Jew was a zealous monotheist long before he believed in the immortality of the soul or its existence independently of the body.

Passing over the second lecture, which deals in a striking and suggestive way with the *Pāli Pitakas*, we find in the third several points worthy of notice. Mr. Rhys Davids doubts "whether the doctrine of the transmigration of souls has ever been independently arrived at or generally held among any of the seven races into which the Aryans were subsequently distributed" (p. 74).

How, then, did the Hindus come by it? He says that "it is unlikely" that the Hindus "could have developed such ideas quite independently after their arrival in India" (p. 80), and thinks it probable that they "derived the principle of the idea" from "the pre-Aryan occupants of the valley of the Ganges" (p. 82). Now, it seems to me much more probable that the doctrine was an independent creation than that it was an adoption. Its independent discovery is not at all unlikely if looked at in connexion with the collective or organic movement of the Hindu mind, while it is too radically related to what may be termed the basis of Hindu thought to be borrowed; it is a branch thrown out by the trunk, not grafted on it. The cardinal matter here is the relation of the idea of the soul to the idea of God; once both are developed, each is sensitive to every change in the other. The more a people tend towards conceiving Deity as the immanent and absolute Soul, creating by emanation, the more they tend towards some theory of

transmigration, where the individual soul must continue ever changing its form till it is absorbed into the Absolute. This notion was at the root of the Egyptian as of the Hindu doctrine; their theories of metempsychosis were alike only so far as their ideas of Deity were akin. So with individual thinkers like Plato. His doctrine of transmigration was not as soberly and seriously meant as his doctrines of pre-existence and immortality; it was often but a mythical or allegorical form in which he expressed his ethical idea. But precisely where he speaks most seriously concerning it he is most under the influence of what may be regarded as his generic conception relative to the order or system within or under which man lives. And exactly so in the case of the Hindus. Their collective development was as real and as logical as the development of any individual could be. Between the end of the Vedic age and the period of the Upanishads, the Hindu consciousness had not so much changed as grown into clear and articulated consistency. Deity was so conceived as to involve what we may call the doctrine of the indestructibility or conservation of souls. Thus in the very *Bṛihad Āraṇyaka* to which Mr. Rhys Davids alludes (p. 81), the relation of the personal to the universal soul is explained by the relation of a lump of salt to the sea;—as a lump, it is a thing apart; as dissolved, it is absorbed into the water. The doctrine may or may not have objective validity—that really does not here concern us; but it was reached by a process as natural and logical as that which has resulted in the idea of the correlation of the physical forces. But while the notion of Deity involved the belief in the persistence of souls, the evolution of the sacerdotal order and system determined the particular form under which their persistence was conceived. Mr. Rhys Davids has entirely overlooked the significance on this point of the *Brahmanas*. The *S'atapatha* is of particular importance. It helps us to measure the growth of the sacerdotal idea; it exhibits sacrifices as able to confer immortality on the gods as on man; and shows how performance or neglect of them determines the rewards or penalties that shall pursue the soul in its future course. In one of the legends in this *Brahmana*, Prof. Weber (*Indische Streifen*, vol. i., pp. 20–30) thinks he has found the germinal notion of transmigration. Be this as it may, it is certain that, if the speculative and sacerdotal ideas of the Hindus be regarded in their organic relations and rational progress, we shall find in the one the material, in the other the formal, source of the doctrine in question.

Our space is exhausted, but we have hardly touched the skirts of Mr. Rhys Davids' book. We could have wished to say something of his interpretation of Karma and Nirvāṇa, of his account of the Lives of the Buddha, of his order, and of the later forms of Buddhism. These are all full of suggestive matter, the more so that it is matter we should often like to criticise or qualify before allowing to pass. How beautifully he can both think and write, a single quotation will be enough to show. He thus concludes his exposition of Karma:—

"The fact underlying all these theories is

acknowledged to be a very real one. The history of the individual does not begin with his birth. He has been endless generations in the making. And he cannot sever himself from his surroundings; no, not for an hour. The tiny snow-drop droops its fairy head just so much and no more, because it is balanced by the universe. It is a snow-drop, not an oak, and just that kind of snow-drop because it is the outcome of the Karma of an endless series of past existences, and because it did not begin to be when the flower opened, or when the mother-plant first peeped above the ground, or first met the embraces of the sun, or when the bulb began to shoot beneath the soil, or at any time which you or I can fix. A great American writer says: "It was a poetic attempt to lift this mountain of fate, to reconcile this despotism of race with liberty, when the Hindoos said, Fate is nothing but the deeds committed in a prior state of existence."

A. M. FAIRBAIRN.

#### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

CAPT. R. F. BURTON and Commander V. L. Cameron are about to undertake a journey of exploration in the country lying at the back of the Gold Coast Colony, and the Council of the Geographical Society have accorded them a loan of instruments to enable them to make scientific observations.

We need here only record the news about the *Jeannette* received from the Governor of Yakutsk—the loss of the ship, and the safety of the larger part of the crew after undergoing great suffering. Further details of the doings of the expedition during the past two years will be anxiously awaited.

It is understood that the Government have under consideration a plan for the establishment of a meteorological station at Fort Simpson, on the Mackenzie River, in connexion with the project for simultaneous observations in various parts of the Arctic regions adopted by the International Polar Conference.

AFTER the exploration of Wrangel Island last September, the United States steamer *Rodgers* made an attempt to penetrate the ice to the north-east, passing first to the northward of Herald Island, for the purpose of making hydrographic observations. The edge of the pack was skirted, and all openings examined, in the hope of advancing northwards; and on September 19 Lieut. Berry reached N. lat. 73° 44', the highest point yet attained in those seas. Returning again to Wrangel Island, he steamed in a north-westerly direction as far north as lat. 73° 28'. In regard to the reported north-westerly current off Herald Island, Lieut. Berry found that, when the tide was flowing, there was a current to the north-west, and to the south-east with the ebb; but at high and low water no current was perceptible.

On October 26 Mr. John Forrest, whose name is well known in connexion with Australian exploration, started from Beverley, in Western Australia, at the head of a party which is to survey the country between York and Albany for a proposed railway.

M. BLANCHET has lately made a journey of exploration, with two companions, in the region of the Upper Chagres, Isthmus of Panama. The party left Gamboa by canoe, and ascended the Chagres to the confluence of the Chilibri. This stream, which is a tributary from the left, was explored, and afterwards the Guantuncillo, a right affluent, and also the Rio Pinto as far as Capireja. The party then descended the Chagres to the village of San Juan, and returned to Panama by the old road formerly used by the Spaniards in crossing the

Isthmus. During the expedition a large extent of virgin forest was seen.

LETTERS have lately reached Paris from M. de Ujfalvy, giving details of his journey in the Western Himalayas, and the various collections he has made. On returning to Europe, M. de Ujfalvy intends to write an account of their travels as a companion work to her former book on Central Asia.

DR. CREVAUX left France in the latter part of November on another expedition to South America. This time he intends to penetrate into the basin of the Amazon from the south by ascending the River Paraguay and one of its affluents. He is accompanied by M. Billet as astronomer and M. Rangal as draughtsman, and there are besides two other assistants. He intends to make a thorough exploration of the Tapajos tributary of the Amazon, for which purpose he has received a large grant from the French Government. We believe that Dr. Crevaux's account of his previous explorations in the Guianas and the Amazon basin is to be published by the French Geographical Society.

M. ERNEST LEROUX, of Paris, announces the publication of a series of original documents illustrating the history of geography and travel from the thirteenth to the sixteenth century, under the general editorship of M. Ch. Schefer, of the Institut, and M. Henri Cordier. As usual with French books that appeal only to a small class, they will be very handsomely got up, and the number of copies will be limited. Four volumes are already in the press—*Giovanni et Sebastian Cabot and Christophe Colomb*, by M. Harnisse; *Le Voyage de la sainte Cité de Jérusalem fait en 1480*, by M. Schefer; and *Odoric de Pordenone*, by M. Cordier.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

*Quaternary Man in Brazil.*—In a recent number of the *Comptes-rendus* of the French Academy of Sciences, Prof. de Quatrefages gives an interesting summary of our knowledge of the fossil man of Brazil. He concludes that in Brazil, as in Europe, man lived contemporaneously with certain species of mammalia which are not represented in the present fauna of the country. The human remains discovered by the late Dr. Lund in the caves of Lagoa Santa, in the province of Minas Geraes, existed in the Reindeer period. MM. Lacerda and Peixoto believe that the present Botocudo race has resulted from a mixture of the Lagoa Santa type with some other ethnic element; and it seems probable that this old type also survives, variously modified, in the populations of Peru and Bolivia.

At the meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh on December 19, the Macdougall-Brisbane prize, awarded biennially for "work most conducive to the interests of science," was presented to Prof. Piazzi Smyth for his paper on "The Solar Spectrum in 1877-78."

PROF. R. S. BALL, Astronomer Royal of Ireland, will on Tuesday, December 27, give the first of a course of six lectures on "The Sun, the Moon, and the Planets" (adapted to a juvenile auditory) at the Royal Institution.

M. BISCHOFFSHEIM's observatory near Nice is approaching completion. The equatorial telescope—probably the largest in the world—will have an object-glass three feet in diameter, and a focal length of upwards of fifty feet. The total cost of the observatory amounts to £100,000.

#### PHILOLOGY NOTES.

WE are glad to hear that a memorial to the Secretary of State for India is in course of signature, praying that Mr. Fleet should be commissioned by the Government to carry on his studies on Indian inscriptions. These inscriptions, apart from their palaeographic value, are almost the sole means left to us for the reconstruction of the early history of the country; and Mr. Fleet is the one man now in India who could do the work. We understand that the signatures to the memorial will be headed by that of Sir E. Colebrooke, M.P., president of the Royal Asiatic Society. It is to be hoped that it will meet with favour. In this connexion we may also mention that the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres has just passed a resolution calling upon the French Government to send M. Aymonier to examine the inscriptions of Cambodia.

At the last meeting of the American Philological Association, the Committee on the Reform of English Spelling reported on the "Partial Corrections of English Spellings approved of by the Philological Society" of England on the proposal of Mr. Henry Sweet. The committee found that

"the corrections are made in the interest of etymological and historical truth, and confined to words which the changes do not much disguise from general readers . . . and it recommends the immediate adoption of the following corrections which are therein set forth, and which are used in this Report."

Then follows a list of twenty-four classes of changes, or single changes to be made, as

"1. Drop silent *e* when functionally useless, as in *live*, *vineyard* . . . engine . . . rained, &c. . . For women restore *wimen* . . . Drop *o* from *ou* having the sound of *u*, as in *journal* . . . rough (*ruf*), tough (*tuf*), and the like . . . Drop silent *b* in *bomb*, *crumb*, &c. . . Change *c* back to *s* in *cinder* . . . hence, once . . . Write *f* for *ph*, as in *philosophy*, &c."

The Report was approved, so that the changes recommended have now the sanction of the two chief authoritative philological bodies of the English-speaking world.

At a recent meeting of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, M. Renan read a communication from M. Clermont-Ganneau, the learned vice-consul of France at Jaffa. M. Clermont-Ganneau has found in the neighbourhood of Gezer a third inscribed stone, similar to, and in a line with, two previously discovered, which apparently marks the limit of a Sabbath-day's journey from the town. He conjectures that this boundary must have been drawn square. Upon these stones are written two Hebrew words, meaning "boundary of Gezer;" and also the following six Greek letters—AAKIOT—of which no satisfactory interpretation has yet been given. M. Clermont-Ganneau has also found upon the slopes of Mount Carmel a Phœnician inscription, which is, unfortunately, in very bad condition. All that can be deciphered is two or three proper names, joined together by the words "son of." Probably it represents a dedication, recalling the passage of Tacitus (*Hist. ii. 78*):—

"Est Judasam inter Syriamque Carmelus; ita vocant montemque deumque. Nec simulacrum deo aut templum; sic tradiderunt majores, aram tantum et reverentiam. Illic sacrificabant Vespasiano —."

M. Clermont-Ganneau further sent two excellent moulds of the Siloam inscription, one hollow, the other in relief. At the same meeting of the Académie des Inscriptions, details were given of the excavations conducted for some years past by M. de Sarzec in Mesopotamia; and M. Oppert took the occasion to say that M. de Sarzec's labours had been more productive than any since the first discovery of Nineveh and Babylon by Sir H. Layard.



AMONG the announcements of Herr Teubner, of Leipzig, is a treatise on the verb *dare* in Latin, as representing the Indo-European root "dha," by Dr. Philip Thielmann, of Speier.

### MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—(Tuesday, Dec. 13.)

HYDE CLARKE, Esq., V.-P., in the Chair.—The discussion on the Rev. R. H. Codrington's paper on "The Affinity of the Melanesian, Malay, and Polynesian Languages" was continued by Mr. A. H. Keane and Mr. Hyde Clarke.—Mr. M. J. Walhouse read a paper on "Some Vestiges of Girl-sacrifices, Jar-burial, and Contracted Interments in India and the East." The great megalithic forms of interment, consisting of kistvaens, or sepulchral underground chambers, formed of four huge slabs covered with an immense cap-stone, surrounded by a circle of standing stones, abound in nearly all the provinces of the Madras Presidency; but, beside these, there is another description of burial peculiar to the region of the Western coast from Malabar to Cape Comorin. This consists of huge mortuary jars or urns, pear-shaped, usually about five feet high by four feet in girth round the shoulders, and tapering to a point at the bottom. They are, of course, thick, red ware, wide mouthed, generally with a rude incised cross-pattern round the neck. These great urns are buried upright in the ground—not in any kist or chamber—and a large flat stone or slab is laid over them, but no circle of stones is ever placed around. They are filled with earth, and contain at the bottom a quantity of bones broken small, some bits of iron, and occasionally a small urn also filled with bits of bone, or sometimes with clean sand, red or white, which must have been brought from a distance.—M. G. Bertin read a paper on "The Origin and Primitive Home of the Semites," which was followed by a discussion.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—(Wednesday, Dec. 14.)

JOSEPH HAYNES, Esq., in the Chair.—Mr. A. J. Ellis read a paper contributed by Mr. Arthur Laurenson, of Lerwick, Shetland Islands, on "The Colour-sense of the Edda," in which he showed the very curious ways in which the idea of colour presented itself to these early peoples, at the same time offering an analysis of their views, many of which will be probably new to Western scholars.—Mr. Karl Blind, who was present, supported most of the views advanced in Mr. Laurenson's paper.

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, Dec. 15.)

DR. G. G. ZERFFI in the Chair.—Mr. Hyde Clarke read "Notes on the Ligurians, Aquitanians, and Belgi." He argued that the Ligurians and Aquitanians were of the same stock as the Iberians. The Ligurians consisted of fragments of tribes, which never constituted a political power. The Belgi belonged to the same race, and used the same languages. They had been separated from the kindred tribes by the invasions of the Celts, which probably caused a migration to their allies in South Britain. The Celts had, however, obtained the upper hand; but it was most probable that descendants of these peoples now existed in Cornwall, Wales, and parts of Ireland. The names on coins, "Camalodunum," "Verulamium," "Eboracum," &c., showed their conformity with the pre-aryan populations of Europe.—The second paper was by Mr. H. E. Malden, entitled, "History on the Face of England." Mr. Malden contended that history is too often treated in an abstract manner, to the destruction of its living interest. To realise the true life of the past, local geographical study of the scenes where history has been enacted is of the greatest use. All the country, in names, ruins, political and ecclesiastical divisions, is full of lessons and memorials of the past. The very streets of London have been the scene of great events; the names of parishes recall primitive political divisions; the names of counties mark the continuance or decay of ancient kingdoms. Roman, Danish, and Norman invaders have left their marks on the country—transitory marks, which remind us of the littleness of one generation compared with the ultimate value of the whole series.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.—(Thursday, Dec. 15.)

JOHN EVANS, Esq., President, in the Chair.—Messrs. H. Dannenberg, of Berlin; E. Hucher and G. Schlumberger, of Paris; and Prof. W. Tiesenhansen, of St. Petersburg, were elected foreign members.—Mr. R. A. Hoblyn read a paper on groats of Henry VIII.—Mr. B. V. Head read a paper on the coinage of Boeotia, in which he attempted a chronological classification in successive periods, ranging from about B.C. 600 down to Roman Imperial times. The autotype plates illustrative of Mr. Head's paper were laid before the meeting. They exhibit more than a hundred varieties of coins of the various Boeotian cities. This paper is to appear both in the forthcoming number of the *Numismatic Chronicle*, and in a separate form as a companion volume to the *Coinage of Syracuse* and the *Coinage of Ephesus*.

THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—(Friday, Dec. 16.)

W. R. S. RALSTON, Esq., V.-P., in the Chair.—Mr. Karl Blind read a paper on "Some Finds in Germanic and Welsh Folk-Lore." The paper dealt with some remarkable relics of an old water-worship which still existed in Shetland and in Wales; and Mr. Blind clearly showed that there still exists many items of yet uncollected folk-lore in our island. Perhaps one of the most interesting features of the paper was that relating to the use of certain words at sea, which were not used elsewhere, and which formed a class-language as distinctive as that found among many uncivilised races.—In the discussion which followed, Mr. Nutt drew several parallels to Mr. Blind's discoveries from the folk-lore of other countries; and Mr. Fitzgerald, commenting on Mr. Blind's statement as to the cat being a water-spirit in Shetland, stated that in Ireland cats were generally tree-spirits.

PHILOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, Dec. 16.)

A. J. ELLIS, Esq., President, in the Chair.—Notice was given that on February 17, 1882, Mr. B. Dawson would read a paper on "The Aesthetics of Translation illustrated from Different Versions of the Bible," and that Mr. Walter Browne's paper on "Celtic Placewords" would be read on June 16.—Mr. Henry Sweet then read a paper by Mr. Thomas Powell, of Bootle College, Liverpool, on "The Treatment of Borrowed English Words in Colloquial Welsh." He took the consonants one by one, and showed what change each was subjected to in the dialect of his district—East Brecknockshire and West Cardiganshire—which he called "Dimetian," an application of the term to which Prince L.-L. Bonaparte took strong exception. Mr. Powell gave a long list of changed words, including several Early English ones imported centuries ago, the word most changed being "varnish" into "marnis;" "chimney" was "simnie."—An Anglesea man, Mr. W. Jones, gave the variations of these in his dialect, and, at the request of the Council, undertook to prepare a paper on the Anglesea dialect for the society's meeting on June 2.—Mr. Powell was asked to complete his paper by adding the vowel-changes, and it would then be printed in the society's *Transactions*.—Mr. Henry Sweet then proposed for discussion some of the points that had turned up in the new English Grammar which he is now writing. (1) For case, he proposed to restrict the word to changes of form, and to retain the old name, "genitive case," as "a day's journey" was no possessive. (2) For the dative and objective of pronouns, he proposed "oblique case;" as he showed that *me* was a dative, as well as *him*—it had ousted the accusative *me*;—but as it was no dative, he thought "oblique" the best name for the non-genitive case of pronouns. (3) He proposed to call the pronouns "general nouns." General proper names they, in fact, were, applicable to any and everything that had been once named. (4) In adjectives, he proposed a class of "general adjectives," to include all the non-qualitative ones, like "all," "some," "every," &c. He will bring forward other like points at future meetings, and Mr. Brandreth has a general paper on the subject for May 5 next.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—(Monday, Dec. 19.)

COL. YULE, V.-P., in the Chair.—M. Bertin read a paper on "The Origin of the Phoenician Alphabet," in which he pointed out that the

old theory of Gesenius and others explained the forms of these characters solely from the meaning of their Hebrew names; while M. Ballhorn had attempted to derive them from the Egyptian hieroglyphic or hieratic signs, one obvious objection to this theory being that it accepts the Hebrew names as they are, without attempting to explain the changes that must have arisen in the course of time. M. van Dirval, also, had tried to derive the Semitic letters from the Egyptian, but his theory was started at a time when the Egyptian signs were really but imperfectly known. On the other hand, de Rouge and other Egyptologists had derived the Phoenician forms directly from the Egyptian hieratic; but many of these letters were taken from ideograms, the resemblance being often too faint to justify such a derivation. In fact, the Egyptian alphabet does not contain all the sounds required for a Semitic one; while it is tolerably clear that the framers of the Phoenician alphabet took those signs which they thought answered best to the Semitic ones, choosing among the Egyptian ideograms those only the Egyptian pronunciation of which came nearest to the Semitic sound they desired to represent.—Mr. Simpson gave an interesting account of a sculptured tope, represented on an old stone at Dras, near Ladakh, which has, curiously, been overlooked by Gen. Cunningham in his description of the same locality. The chief value of the representation of this tope is in its bearing on the form of the topes in the Jialabad valley and near Peshawar. All the Indian topes, he showed, have round bases; while those on the other side of the Indus have square bases, with stairs, or the remains of them, leading up to the top of the square base, as exemplified in those found beyond the Khyber Pass.—Col. Yule exhibited a Lolo MS., written on red and blue satin, which had been recently sent to him by Mr. Colborne Baber, the present secretary of the Chinese Legation at Peking; and M. de La Couperie gave an account of the meaning of the writing so far as the limited materials at present available admit. M. de La Couperie stated that the MS. contained about 5,750 words, ranged, generally, in verses of five words each, though in this the red and the blue sides did not always agree; the writing, however, was not Chinese. M. de La Couperie added that the importance of the discovery by Mr. Baber can hardly be overrated, as it will probably give us the link for understanding the connexion existing between the various members of a family of writing widely disseminated; such as that, for example, on the stone found at Harepa, near Lahore, and with the Rejang, Korean, and Japanese.—The Rev. Prof. Beal briefly stated some conclusions to which his recent studies had led him with regard to the probable meaning of pl. xxviii., fig. 1, in Mr. Fergusson's *Tree and Serpent Worship*, second edition. With these the author, who was present, concurred.

### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

TUESDAY, Dec. 27, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "The Sun," by Prof. R. S. Ball.  
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, 7 p.m. Society of Arts: Juvenile Lecture, I.  
8 p.m. Zoological.  
THURSDAY, Dec. 29, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "The Moon," by Prof. R. S. Ball.  
7 p.m. London Institution: "Old English Country Songs," by Mr. W. A. Barrett.  
SATURDAY, Dec. 31, 3 p.m. Royal Institution: "Mercury, Venus, and Mars," by Prof. R. S. Ball.

### FINE ART.

#### DEL MAR'S MONOGRAPH ON CHINESE COINS.

*Monograph on the History of Money in China from the Earliest Times to the Present.* By Alexander Del Mar, M.E., late Director of the U.S. Bureau of Statistics, Mining Commissioner for the U.S. Monetary Commission of 1876, &c., &c. (San Francisco.) This *Monograph* would not deserve a notice in the columns of the ACADEMY but for the circumstance that it has been favourably noticed in a contemporary which is usually well informed. The memoir, indeed, is so faulty that it is only surprising that its mistakes should require to be exposed. The author has apparently given himself no trouble to consult those works on his subject

which are available in European languages; Chinese authorities he is quite unable to use. It is true he has consulted Dr. Legge on the Chinese seals found in Ireland, and on the inscription which Dr. Schliemann discovered, and which a Celestial envoy, and also Em. Burnouf, identified as Chinese, but which has proved to be akin to the Cypriote; but Mr. Del Mar apparently knows nothing of the ordinary literature of the subject he has so rashly discussed. He does not seem to have heard of Biot's *Mémoire sur le Système monétaire des Chinois*, or Dr. Vissering's well-known book *On Chinese Currency, Coin, and Paper Money* (Leyden, 1877), or the Baron de Chandoir's great catalogue—the three classical authorities on Chinese monetary history, and, in spite of inaccuracies, the only works to refer to in the absence of native sources. His chief authorities appear to be Forbes's *Five Years in China* (1847) and Martin's *History of China*—the latter cited seventeen times, obviously at second hand since the title of R. Montgomery Martin's book, published also in 1847, is *China: Political, Commercial, and Social*. Mr. Del Mar writes about the Nestorian inscription of Si-ngan fu without knowing what has been said thereon by Bridgeman, Wylie, Pauthier, and Dabry de Thiersant, by whom the suspicions of Voltaire, which Mr. Del Mar shares, have been shown to be entirely unfounded. In the same manner he refers to "the evidence of the Egyptian vases," found in tombs of the Eighteenth Dynasty at Thebes, "upon which no doubt has yet been thrown," when an ordinary acquaintance with the matter he presumes to write upon would have shown him that, so far from the evidence not having been doubted, it has been completely demolished by Medhurst and Stanislas Julien, who proved that the bottles were modern; and by M. Prisse, who obtained from the Arabs a confession that the bottles were never found in the tombs at all. Mr. Del Mar's mistakes are, however, too many to be catalogued. We observed more than twenty gross errors in the first ten pages. Inaccurate translations, incorrect quotations, names cited sometimes in Mandarin, sometimes in the dialect of Shanghai, transcriptions and orthography of the most fantastic description, are among his venial sins. Of his capital crimes, one or two examples are all we care to give. On p. 10 Mr. Del Mar speaks of "the reign of Leshimen or that of his immediate successor, Tai-Tsung." These two personages are one and the same. Li She-min was the second son of the founder of the Tang Dynasty, whom he succeeded in 626; his dynastic title is Tai tsung, and his "nien hao" is Cheng kwan. Mr. Del Mar might have avoided this extraordinary display of ignorance by a reference to Meyer's *Chinese Reader's Manual*, where a special article is devoted to Li She-min. Again, Mr. Del Mar is inclined to think that the Roman system of bronze numeraries was imitated from China, for he believes that money existed in the Celestial Empire under the reigns of Fuhi, Shinnung, Hoang-ti, and other more or less fabulous heroes, whose historical position offers no difficulties to our author, who places them "within a century or two" of 2942 and 2687. It is curious that the Chinese annals, on which he bases his belief in a currency existing at this remote, if indefinite, period, make no mention whatever of it. As a matter of fact, a Chinese coinage does not appear before the seventh century B.C. Mr. Del Mar may, perhaps, be surprised to learn that No. 1 among the coins of his plates, attributed to Sung (Shun) 2257 B.C., is a forgery, and a bad one, of a piece issued during the disturbed period preceding the foundation of the Chinese empire, B.C. 221. For the amusing misreading of this forgery by the Chinese vice-consul at San Francisco, Mr.

Del Mar is not responsible; but it is only fair to warn him that it is quite possible to be a consul of China, and even an "American academician," as this gentleman is titled, without being much of a Chinese palaeographer. Indeed, one would hardly go even to a British vice-consul for an opinion on early English phonetics. In Mr. Del Mar's case, however, this particular instance of indiscriminate is merely a solitary example of a fatal lack of judgment. His *Monograph* is a museum of curious blunders. Let us hope, however, that it may have this result—to show how useful for the general history of trade and political economy would be a short, but sound, history of Chinese numismatics.

TERRIEN DE LA COUPERIE.

#### OBITUARY.

MR. G. E. STREET AND MR. DECIMUS BURTON.

THE announcement within the same week of the deaths of Mr. Decimus Burton and of Mr. George Edmund Street seems almost like a confusion of the centuries. Each was reckoned among the leading architects of his day, but between the two is such a gulf that it requires an effort to believe that both came within one lifetime. An architect, to be successful, must embody in his works the ideal of his own generation. If he be too much in advance he may teach those who follow him, and may even produce, as Pugin did, a complete revolution in his art; but, meanwhile, his contemporaries will not understand, and will probably neglect, him.

It was Mr. Burton's hap to come at a time when architecture was at its very lowest point. Ever since the Renaissance there had been a gradually increasing tendency to make the design of a building a mask rather than a clothing to it. Instead of a design growing out of, and naturally expressing, the practical requirements of a building, it became more and more an independent study, until at last it became a purely academic affair, based only upon certain conventional rules of "taste," and taking no count of the wants of the building, which had to be accommodated to it as best they could. In the days of George IV., the one idea was to make every building—house, church, museum, or whatever it might be—into something more or less resembling a Greek temple, or, if it absolutely refused to be forced into that form, at least to stick pieces of Greek temples on it by way of adornment. Such was the sort of work Mr. Burton was expected to do; and he did it so as to bear comparison with the work of his contemporaries—Soan, Nash, Inwood, and the Smirkes. Some of the terraces in Regent's Park are by him, as also was the now destroyed Colosseum; but his most generally known works are probably the entrances to the parks at Hyde Park Corner. He is not, however, responsible for the monstrous statue placed over the southern one.

Mr. Street, coming a quarter-of-a-century later, was in every way more fortunate in his age. He was just in time to join in the enthusiasm of the Gothic movement, and to profit by its triumph, which he did to the fullest extent. After serving his articles in a country office, he entered that of Mr. (afterwards Sir G. G.) Scott, with whom he remained several years; and, among other things, he worked upon the competition design for St. Nicholas's Church, Hamburg, the most important effort in the revived Gothic which had up to that time been produced. On leaving Mr. Scott, Mr. Street commenced practice for himself, first at Oxford, but he soon removed to London. He became connected with the Ecclesiological Society, where his merit was soon recognised. Unfortunately for his style, he was attracted by the early French form of Gothic, which was

much the fashion here about 1860; and, although his later works show a continual effort to throw off its influence, he never succeeded in doing so entirely. But his designs have more than mere style to recommend them. They have a thoroughness and solid merit which even the wild extravagances, such as are in St. James's Church, Westminster, cannot altogether obscure.

Mr. Street was before all an ecclesiastical architect, and his most important works are, with few exceptions, churches. They are very many, and are widely scattered. Among them are St. Mary Magdalene's, Paddington; St. Philip and St. James', Oxford; All Saints', Clifton; St. John's, Kennington; St. Peter's, Bournemouth; and the new nave of Bristol Cathedral, which last is one of the most successful works of modern times. Another very fine design was that sent in by him for the new cathedral at Edinburgh, in which he aimed at meeting the requirements of a modern cathedral in such a town, instead of making a mere model of a mediæval one. Those who had the selection preferred the conventional type. So this church remains only on paper.

The New Law Courts are Mr. Street's greatest work, and, although it is the fashion now to find fault with them, they are a noble pile; and it is likely enough that the inconveniences of arrangement of which we hear are there, as they certainly are in some other Government buildings, not the fault of the architect, but the result of over-parsimony and ignorant official interference.

In his earlier days Mr. Street was a considerable writer of articles on professional and antiquarian subjects; and he is the author of two books, *Brick and Marble Architecture in the Middle Ages*, and *Gothic Architecture in Spain*.

Mr. Street was a member of the Royal Academy, and at the time of his death was President of the Institute of Architects. He had also received several foreign distinctions. It has been decided that he shall be buried in Westminster Abbey, and the funeral will take place on Thursday next, December 29.

J. T. MICKLETHWAITE.

#### EXHIBITIONS.

THE WATER-COLOURS OF MR. SUTTON PALMER.

ACCUSTOMED as we are to rich results from sketching tours, there is yet room for surprise at the harvest of this young artist during little more than five months' work out of doors in Yorkshire, which is now to be seen at Messrs. Dowdeswell's, in Bond Street. The achievement is not, of course, so great as that of Turner's ever-memorable visit to the same county in 1797, when the great artist was but two-and-twenty. Mr. Sutton Palmer, with all his cleverness, is not a Turner; but, nevertheless, it is sufficient to make us hope that such an exhibition of technical skill and refined feeling for various phases of landscape beauty is evidence of an artistic force which will win for its possessor no transitory reputation.

That the collection should be remarkable for variety of sympathy rather than strength of individuality is not perhaps to be regretted in an artist of seven-and-twenty. The more numerous the sources from which a painter draws his inspiration, whether those sources be nature itself or the works of older artists, so much the better for the richness of his own maturity in the end; provided always that his variety be the exhibition of the many-sidedness of his own mind, and not of mere facility in reflecting the lights of others. In Mr. Sutton Palmer's case, it is clear that his versatility is of the higher kind; his drawings show that he has learnt from many other artists the best methods to imitate different aspects of nature, but they all bear witness to close personal study of the aspects themselves.



One of the most favourable symptoms for Mr. Palmer's future is that he can finish as well as sketch, and that he never seeks to make a clever trick of execution do duty for thorough work. Nothing is more noticeable in these drawings than the beauty of his foregrounds. The large-leaved docks and white flowers in his *Sandbach* (63) and the mossy boulders in *The Ure* (46) are marvels of minute and successful execution. In the former, the beautiful disorder of nature is represented perfectly, not by the clever, confused splashing of colour that many use, but by elaborate drawing and artful composition; in the latter, the truth of colour and texture is not more remarkable than the honest labour with which the effects are obtained. On the other hand, such rapidly executed works as his *Wind* (50) and *Cornfield* (60) show that David Cox has not painted in vain for him, and that he does not finish patiently because his broad touches are unmeaning.

Without bearing evidence of any great depth of poetic sentiment, Mr. Palmer's sketches are full of that poetry of the present, the joy in the life and light and colour of nature, which divides living realism from dead. How frequent and various this joy is, the present collection is sufficient witness; and his skill seems to us to be always equal to the occasion of mirroring his delight for our benefit, whether it be in the splashing waters of a spate, the cool light gleaming upon weedy rocks, or the magic silence of a quiet cave. If we add to such effects as these the rich harmonies of swelling moor, the colour-echoes of the wooded stream, the sunbeams shattered by a thousand leaves or pouring silver on the silent sea, we shall not have exhausted the many ways in which Mr. Sutton Palmer can take and give artistic pleasure.

#### THE EUROPEAN GALLERIES.

It is a matter for much regret that the managers of these galleries have found it impossible to sustain that decorative character which was intended to be the *specialité* of their exhibitions. In this, their second, exhibition, Fine Art (or what is so called) reigns triumphant, and there is little except ornamented furniture which represents art specially applied to decoration. The difficulty of defining what is decorative art and what is not, which according to the prospectus is one reason for this change of front, is more theoretical than practical. Given a design for tapestry, it may be hard sometimes to say whether it has those qualities which are essential to effective decoration, but there is no difficulty in describing the purpose for which it is intended. It may be good or bad of its kind, fit for painting on canvas and framing rather than for working with the needle—unfit for anything perhaps; but if you want an exhibition of decorative art it is only necessary to state the classes of design you wish to receive beforehand, and there can be no difficulty in arrangement afterwards. The distinction in the catalogue between "fine" and "decorative" art is a bad one. All fine art should be decorative, and all decorative art fine. What is wanted, and what we hoped these galleries would supply, is an exhibition of fine art applied specially in decoration and ornament as distinguished from fine art which is an end to itself. Such an exhibition, in spite of difficulties and discouragements, we hope that we shall yet see established in the European Galleries.

Meanwhile, although it adds another to the already too long list of such exhibitions, we may be thankful that this collection of pictures is so good. In landscape it is especially strong, both English and foreign. Of those refined scenes of country beauty, softened (almost hallowed) by tender sentiment, with which Mr. Herbert, R.A., fills up the intervals of more

strenuous labour, there are five excellent specimens. In one of these, called *La Guerre—Coast of France*, there is a strange similarity in design to the well-known *Peace of Landseer*. Mr. Oakes, A.R.A., sends a fine work, *The Border Country* (315); and of Mr. Parton's genius *The Still Pool* (323) is a characteristic and beautiful example. The promise of Mr. Walter Shaw is amply sustained in his soundly drawn and painted sea, *Off the Coast of Cornwall* (217), with the waves rushing up and trickling down the truly coloured rocks. By foreign artists the landscapes are also numerous and good. Specially striking are M. P. J. C. Gabriel's *The Polders of Leidschendam* (294) and the *Twilight and Sunset* of M. F. Lamorinière (354 and 355). The latter pictures have also a technical claim to attention, being painted with dissolved amber for a medium. Some works by M.M. E. de Schampheleer and J. van Luppen deserve attention; and we must pass over a number of little landscapes both by English and foreign artists which have much merit. Of figure subjects, we have Mr. Millais' fine study for his boy-Raleigh; a very clever scene from *Tangiers*, by M. A. Bouchet, called *A Negro Melodist*, daring and successful in colour, and full of character; as is also his smaller *Moorish Woman* (349); but the finest work of this class (one which it is worth visiting the exhibition to see) is the *Sale of Objects of Art*, by M. A. Hennebicq (356). In *A Lady of the Seventeenth Century* (238) we have one of Mr. Pettie's grandly drawn and painted single figures. *The Poisoning Scene in Hamlet* (214), by M. L. Valles, is original in arrangement, fine in colour, and striking in expression. There is, however, a touch of over-acting in Hamlet, and Ophelia is uninteresting. These fine works, with others by Messrs. Alma Tadema, F. Goodall, and G. H. Storey; and Miss Clara Montalba's *Funeral at Venice*, which we are glad to see again; some painters by M. E. de Fraterre and cattle by M. J. H. de Haas; some quiet scenes of Dutch life by M.M. J. J. Paling and J. A. Heyermans; Mr. J. D. Linton's rather black, but finely painted, *Red Fan* (302), and others too numerous to mention, make up a very attractive collection.

In the rooms below we noticed some very choice furniture shown by Felix and Wayman, who seem to be reviving *vernish martin* and many other beautiful, but disused, decorative devices, such as the inlaying of figures in wooden panels with ivory, coloured wood, and metal. There is also a very choice collection of enamels (in the Limoges style) by M. Georges Jean, which, for vigour of design, beauty of drawing, and lovely variety of colour, are equally remarkable. Nor must we omit to mention the stoneware shown by the Ceramic Goods Company, which appears to have before it a distinguished future. Fine but stiff in texture when moist, but of extreme hardness when fired, it can be worked with the greatest precision, and is difficult to fracture. It also appears to be easily colourable, so that patterns of the greatest beauty and intricacy can be inlaid like mosaic. Many beautiful specimens of this new work are shown, from tables like inlaid marble to plates in imitation of Wedgwood's jasper ware. There seems to be no reason why this imitation should not be more successful than at present it is, and the new material seems specially suited to produce objects in the style of the famous ware of Oiron.

COSMO MONKHOUSE.

#### NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

LORD LEICESTER'S fine bust of Thucydides, which was identified lately by Prof. Michaelis after having stood in the hall at Holkham for more than a century as a representation of Metrodorus, will form the subject of an article

in the January number of the *Antiquary*, accompanied with a wood-cut of the bust.

THE winter exhibition at the Grosvenor Gallery, which will consist this year of water-colour drawings, together with a complete collection of the works of Mr. Watts, will open to the public on Saturday next, December 31. The press view is on Thursday, and the private view on the day following.

MAJOR A. P. DI CESNOLA'S forthcoming work on his collection of antiquities from Cyprus, entitled *Salamina*, to which we have before referred, will be issued to subscribers at the price of one guinea. A few copies are still remaining of the same author's *Photographic Atlas of Cyprus Antiquities*, which was noticed in the ACADEMY of June 18.

IN our account last week of the prizes awarded to the students of the Royal Academy, we omitted to mention that Mr. Oscar Alexander Junck obtained the gold medal and travelling studentship (£200) for composition in sculpture, and Mr. James Howard Ince similar prizes for a design in architecture. We are sorry to observe that one of the two travelling studentships for historical painting was not awarded, and that one of the prizes for which there was no competition was that of steel-engraving. Surely, in these days of revival of even the most trivial of "lost arts," this is not to be allowed to sink without a struggle. The fashion which has brought etching to the front will not last for ever; the nearer it approaches its possible perfection the more plainly will it be seen that "sculpture by incision," as brave John Landseer termed it, translates accurately certain qualities of picture and design which the needle can do little more than suggest. The reaction will come, and before long, and then we shall have few, if any, masters left to teach it. It is much the same with miniature painting—one of the oldest and most necessary of arts. Photography has almost killed it for the present, but how much longer will it take us to learn that the best photograph, coloured or uncoloured, is but an unsatisfactory memorial of the dead, to say nothing of the living?

WE hear that a bronze bust of Confucius has been received at the Chinese Embassy in St. Petersburg for presentation to the Imperial Hermitage.

AT the last meeting of the Society of Scottish Antiquaries, papers were read upon a bronze anvil which has recently been added to the museum; upon a "knockin' stane," or barley mortar, found at Ballachulish by Sir Robert Christison; upon a hoard of bronze weapons, many of them of peculiar form, discovered several years ago at Killin; and upon some shell-mounds at Lossiemouth, which have yielded many fragments of pottery and some remains of iron and bronze.

AN important discovery of the remains of a very large temple, with a long subterranean gallery supported by three rows of columns, has been made at Saunay, near Poitiers, by le Père de la Croix; and, at a little distance from the temple, the remains of a bathing establishment. Fragments of sculpture, pottery, pictures, and coins have been dug up.

AMONG the treasures left by M. Timbal to the Louvre is an original drawing by Raphael for the Belle Jardinière.

THE gallery of French sculpture which has recently been opened in the Trocadéro, at Paris, is to be called the Musée Viollet-le-Duc.

THE leading painters of Germany are already taking measures to be well represented at the International Art Exhibition which is to be held at Vienna next year (1882). Herr von Götz, of Dresden, the President of the German Art Society, has recently paid a visit to Berlin,

in order to present a memorial to Prince Bismarck praying that the whole matter may be placed in official hands.

We learn from the *Courrier de l'Art* that the following exhibitions will be opened this and next month:—At Lyons, exhibition of La Société des Amis des Arts; Nice, exhibition of Fine Arts; Pau, exhibition of La Société des Amis des Arts de Pau; Paris, at the National School of Fine Arts, an exhibition by a rich collector of a thousand water-colours.

The proposal submitted by M. Turquet to the French Chamber for the sale of some of the Crown jewels, and the employment of the proceeds as a fund for the museums, has been taken up by the new Minister of Art. Only such jewels as have some historic or artistic interest are to be reserved.

AN important discovery has been made by M. Lauth, director of the manufactory of Sèvres. This is a new porcelain that will take some enamels which it has hitherto been impossible to employ in decorating porcelain on account of their scaling at the high temperature required for this description of pottery. These enamels can now be used on porcelain with more brilliant effect than on *faïence*.

SOME of the thirty-three pictures of Courbet, mentioned in our last as about to be sold in Paris, realised large prices, as follow:—*L'Homme à la Ceinture de Cuir*, 26,100 frs.; *L'Homme blessé*, 11,000 frs.; *L'Atelier de Courbet*, 21,000 frs.; *La Sieste pendant la Saison des Foins*, 29,100 frs.; *Le Combat de Cerfs*, 41,900 frs.; *L'Hallali*, 33,900 frs.; and *Le Retour de la Conférence*, 15,600 frs. The total proceeds of thirty-two pictures was 251,990 frs. This would have been largely increased but for the gift to the Louvre of perhaps the most important of all—viz., *Un Enterrement à Ornans*. This generous action of Mlle. Courbet is all the nobler as that lady is by no means rich, and she had been offered a high price for it by a well-known amateur who expressed his intention of giving it to the State. Turner acted in exactly the same way about his *Carthage*, but he was rich. The following pictures, *L'Homme à la Ceinture de Cuir*, *L'Homme blessé*, *La Sieste pendant les Foins*, *Le Combat de Cerfs*, and *L'Hallali* were purchased for the State. Of *Un Enterrement à Ornans* there is an excellent wood-cut (full-page, *hors texte*) in *L'Art* (December 11), as well as an interesting account of the work by M. Eugène Véron. It was exhibited in the Salon of 1851, and created a sensation from the stern thoroughness of its realism. M. Véron rightly refuses to admit the work as one of genius; but of its great merit and its importance in the history of modern art there can be no question.

THE opening of the exhibition of Portuguese and Spanish art at Lisbon, to which we have before referred, has been put off until after the new year.

#### THE STAGE.

IT is entertaining to notice the various fashions in which the appearance of Mrs. Langtry at the Haymarket on Thursday has been received by the leading organs of public opinion. While the *Times* expressed itself with extraordinary warmth, and dwelt upon the beauties of the actress with a minuteness of detail generally reserved for art criticism, the *Standard* opined that the efforts of an amateur were unworthy of serious analysis. Other newspapers of influence took a middle course; and, on this occasion, wisdom was, we think, with them, for, while we have every regard for the independence which refused to allow the exceptional position of Mrs. Langtry in "society" to influence in any degree the opinion formed of her when she

sought the suffrages of a larger public, we must yet remember that the lady's natural gifts are of a kind that may fairly count, and that, if she is now nominally an amateur, she will almost immediately be a professional actress. The physical qualities of a player form a great part of his capital on the stage. He trades with these, turning them to their best uses; and it is only from old habit, and from something like a mistaken view of the demands of courtesy, that reference is not much oftener made to them when the results of which they are so much the cause are being discussed. Therefore, even if Mrs. Langtry's beauty had not for several years been a theme of conversation on every omnibus-top in London, we should still venture to take public account of it when she presented herself at the theatre, and to say that not only is it admirable and peculiar, but that it is of a kind that tells distinctly on the stage. This is much to the point; and it is likewise to the point to know that Mrs. Langtry has a voice of excellent quality for the stage. It is a voice of sufficient power; and she has learned to use its power, though possibly not its compass. As an actress, Mrs. Langtry has had, it seems, a good deal of tuition from one of the most thoroughly intelligent members of the profession—Miss Henrietta Hodson; and if she is reproached with having come before the public all at once as Miss Hardcastle, and not as a *soubrette*, with only a couple of "lengths" of speech, as a beginner used to do in the old days, it may be asked in rejoinder, Would the public have been better pleased if Mrs. Langtry had come out in the insignificant part, and if the greater had been given to a comedian of years and experience with whom they were already familiar? It can hardly be doubted that the appearance for the benefit of a charity will be followed by a regular theatrical engagement. Mrs. Langtry will in some quarters be grossly flattered; but Mrs. Langtry must work; and the chances are that, if she works hard, the stage will have received a valuable as well as an attractive recruit.

#### MUSIC.

##### MR. HENRY LESLIE'S NEW SYMPHONY, ETC.

MR. H. LESLIE, the head of the once famous "Leslie Choir," conducted the concert at the Crystal Palace last Saturday, and produced a symphony in D, entitled *Chivalry*. As far back as 1847 he wrote his first work in this the highest form of orchestral compositions, and since then he has published an opera, *Ida*; two oratorios, *Immanuel* and *Judith*; and a quantity of instrumental chamber music, autems, madrigals, songs, &c. The work heard for the first time on Saturday does great credit to its composer. We cannot say that it possesses any marked individuality of style, or that it is altogether free from reminiscences; but the subjects of the various movements are tuneful and pleasing, the construction of the whole is very clear, and the orchestration shows a skilful and experienced hand. Inscriptions and mottoes help to convey the story which Mr. Leslie seeks to illustrate. The opening *allegro*, "Youth," is put together in a remarkably clear and unlaboured style; in our opinion, it is certainly the best of the four movements of the symphony. The *andante sostenuto*, "Love," begins with a short recitative with muted violins and *pppp* quite à la Berlioz. The first subject forms the love song of the hero; and the second, the lady's response to his wooing. The *scherzo*, "Play," representing a dance or scene of merriment, is not particularly striking; portions of Beethoven's seventh and ninth symphonies and the *scherzo* of Schubert's great duet in C seem to have strongly influenced the composer while writing

this movement. The *finale*, "War, Death, Glory," contains too much of the programme element, and, as abstract music, does not possess sufficient interest. An inscription or short motto is all very well, but, as a rule, we find that music loses in value and power in proportion as the clues given by the composer become more definite. Berlioz' *Symphonie fantastique* is a case in point: the two last movements, owing to their marvellous orchestration, are certainly very interesting and attractive, but as abstract music they are inferior to the earlier portions of the symphony. Mr. Leslie in his work has made judicious use of the *Leitmotive*: the introduction of the "hero theme" in the *andante* is very effective, as well as that of the love theme in the *finale*. Mr. Marsick made his second appearance, and performed Mendelssohn's concerto. He has already shown his powers as an executant, and his interpretation of this classical work leads us to believe that he will occupy a high position among violinists. Miss Mary Davies was the vocalist, and chose for one of her songs "Absence," from the *Nuits d'Été* of Berlioz, recently performed at a Richter concert.

Mme. Sainton-Dolby gave a concert last Thursday week at the Steuway Hall, at which three young ladies, Miss Burgess, Miss Townsend, and Miss Florence Wallis, made their first appearance. They are all still pupils of Mme. Dolby, and the careful and artistic style of their performances testifies to the able and conscientious teaching of that talented lady. The instruction is of no superficial kind; the pupils are thoroughly trained and brought up in a way which will ensure future success if they only possess the voice. The very best teacher cannot achieve wonders without good material, but nothing in Mme. Dolby's teaching strikes us more than the power she has of developing to the utmost any voice entrusted to her care. The concert pieces for female voices (Schubert's 23rd Psalm and pieces by Cherubini, Macfarren, and Pissuti) were well sung under the firm and intelligent direction of M. Sainton. Mr. John Payne, a very young violinist, gave a marvellous interpretation of Ernst's very difficult variations on a Hungarian air. Miss Coward, with Miss Pedley (violin) and Miss Margaret Gyde (piano), performed the Bach-Gounod *Ave Maria*, for which they received an *encore*. Miss Woodhatch, Miss Fusselle, and others who have appeared at former concerts contributed to the success of the evening. Mr. Leopold accompanied in an effective manner all the vocal music.

We have received a prospectus announcing the production of Wagner's *Ring des Nibelungen* at Her Majesty's Theatre next year. This music drama will be performed in four entire cycles during the month of May, under the direction of Herr Angelo Neumann. The first cycle commences on Friday, May 5. Herr Anton Seidl, of the theatre at Leipzig, will be the conductor. Engagements have been made with some very eminent artists; the list already includes the names of Herr and Frau Vogl and Herr Reichmann, opera singers at Munich; Frau Reicher-Kindermann, of Leipzig; Herr Scaria, from Vienna; and Herr Albert Niemann, from Berlin. The scenery, costumes, &c., used at the Bayreuth Festival will be employed at Her Majesty's Theatre, and the final rehearsals will be superintended by the composer. It is a bold undertaking; but the rendering of Wagner's *opus magnum* in complete form, and on the stage, will no doubt create the greatest interest in musical circles. While speaking of operas, we may as well mention that in the last prospectus issued by the German Opera Company, under the direction of Herren Franke and L. Pollini, one more opera has been added to the list—viz., Mozart's *Così Fan Tutti*. J. S. SHEDLOCK.



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